The Nation

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1914.

Summary of the News

There occurred last week one of those "unforeseen incidents" which, it has been suggested, might arise to force Italy to abandon her attitude of neutrality. The incident, in point of fact, occurred on November 11, but the details were only fully known to the Italian Foreign Office on December 3, and were not made public until Friday of last week. It appears that on the first-named date an effort was made by the Turkish authorities at Hodeida, a seaport of Arabia on the Red Sea, to arrest the British Consul-General, G. A. Richardson, at his house. Mr. Richardson, however, escaped to the Italian Consulate, which was thereupon invaded by the Turks. The British Consul was arrested and spirited away to an unknown destination, and the Italian Consulate was surrounded by an armed guard, the Consul being kept virtually a prisoner until the arrival of an Italian coast-guard vessel on December 3. Baron Sonnino, Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced in the Chamber on Friday that Italy had demanded of Turkey the immediate release of the British Consul and his conveyance unharmed to the Italian Consulate at Hodeida; a formal apology for the violation of the Consulate, and indemnity for the wounding of an Italian subject in the course of the affair. In default of receiving satisfaction on these points, Italy will consider that the Turkish Government approves of the violence committed by the authorities at Hodeida. To give weight to the demand, the Italian armored cruiser Marco Polo has been dispatched to Hodeida. On account of the interruption of communications, it is believed that nothing is known of the affair at Constantinople, and it is thought probable that Turkey will yield to the Italian demands.

There have been no further developments in the situation in the Balkans. Reports of a rapprochement between Servia and Bulgaria, under the auspices of Rumania, have been renewed but not confirmed. A remarkably succinct analysis of the situation as it affects Bulgaria was given by M. Panaretoff, first Bulgarian Minister to the United States, in an interview published in the New York *Evening Post* on December 11. There is naturally a strong anti-Servian feeling in Bulgaria, but even so, according to M. Panaretoff, a rapprochement with Servia might be welcomed, even to the extent of armed co-operation against Austria, if it carried with it the cession of certain territory taken from Bulgaria after the last war. In Rumania public sentiment appears to be growing in favor of intervention on the side of the Allies. To the voice of M. Jonesco, Minister of the Interior, who has steadily urged participation in the war, has been added that of M. Filipesco, leader of the Conservative party, who, according to a dispatch from Bucharest to the Paris *Temps*, declared in an interview recently that Rumania would "soon abandon neutrality for more active sympathy with the Allies." Rumania, he added, was waiting upon Bulgarian intentions; "directly we are assured on this point—which I predict will be soon—Rumania will begin participation unreservedly."

The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Appropriations bill was reported to the House on Monday. The bill provides for an appropriation of $38,744,753. From the estimates submitted by the various departments the Appropriations Committee cut off nearly $2,000,000.

Action taken by the Democratic caucus of the Senate on December 12 virtually insures a vote at this session on the Immigration bill. The Philippines bill and the Ship Purchase bill will also be considered.

The House Committee on Rules on December 12 reported a resolution to bring the national prohibition amendment and the woman suffrage amendment to a vote within two weeks. The proposed prohibition amendment is to be taken up on December 22, and the suffrage amendment will be considered after the settlement of the issue on prohibition.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, in his annual report to Congress on December 9, outlined the steps taken by the Treasury Department to restore confidence and support American business in the crisis occasioned by the war. Comment on the report will be found in our editorial columns.

The annual report to Congress of Postmaster-General Burleson was published on December 13. The feature of the report that arouses most comment and criticism is the recommendation that the Government should take over both the telegraph and the telephone companies.

Col. Goethals last week made a request that two torpedo-boat destroyers be sent to the waters of the Canal Zone to prevent violations of neutrality by the misuse of the wireless and the taking on of supplies by belligerent vessels. Owing to the confidential nature of Col. Goethals's dispatch, the contents of it have not been made public. The matter, as we write, is under the consideration of the various departments in Washington involved.

The reopening of the Stock Exchange for trading in stocks on Saturday of last week was unattended by any sign of collapse of the market as a result of liquidation of foreign securities. On the contrary, most stocks showed an advance over the prices of July 30, when the Exchange was closed. At the reopening on Saturday fixed minimum prices were set, and trading was limited to certain issues. On Tuesday, however, in view of the success of the reopening, trading was resumed in all listed stocks.

Headed by Senator Hitchcock, a movement that has assumed some proportions has been started in Congress for the introduction of legislation to prohibit the shipment of munitions of war to any of the belligerent countries. Senator Hitchcock has also introduced a bill making it a violation of neutrality for any firm or corporation to lend money directly or indirectly to any of the belligerents. This movement, if it is allowed to proceed, appears calculated to cause some embarrassment to the Administration. For the President to exercise his personal influence on individuals to prevent the shipment of munitions of war to belligerents is one thing; to pass legislation when a state of war already exists that would totally change the internationally accepted understanding of the rights and prerogatives of neutral nations, would be another and a very different matter. It has even been suggested that such legislation, as tending to annul the advantage legitimately gained in the process of warfare by one belligerent over another, would involve in itself an actual breach of neutrality.

A meeting of the French Cabinet was held at the Elysée on December 11, for the first time since the Government withdrew to Bordeaux on September 3.

To succeed the Ministry of Senhor Machado, which, as we recorded last week, resigned on December 5, a Democratic Cabinet has been formed in Portugal by Senhor Azevedo Coutinho.

An official statement was given out by Gen. Louis Botha on December 10 to the effect that the rebellion in South Africa was virtually at an end, only one rebel leader of any consequence, Col. Maritz, who has escaped to German Southwest Africa, remaining uncaptured. Gen. Botha added that the next duty of the South African people and Government was to "make it impossible for German Southwest Africa again to be used as a base from which to threaten the peace and liberties of the Union."

Many speculations have been heard as to the possibility of the existence in Germany, unheard through the muzzle of the censorship, of a peace party. Some confirmation, which, however, should not be unduly emphasized, appears to have been lent to such a suggestion by the refusal of Dr. Liebknecht to vote in favor of the war budget and by the terms of the motion which he handed to the President of the Reichstag on that occasion and which the President refused to put to a vote. The motion denounced the war and the breach of the neutrality of Belgium and Luxemburg, and demanded the conclusion of a speedy peace without conquest. Dispatches from Copenhagen also state that a carefully conducted anti-war agitation is going on among a certain section of the Socialists, and that some members of the party, like Dr. Liebknecht and Frau Rosa Luxemburg, have been remarkably outspoken in their condemnation. The fact that these leaders have not been arrested, it is suggested, indicates that the movement is so formidable that the Government shrinks from the consequences of punishing them.

The deaths of the week include: William Woodville Rockhill, December 8; Congressman Sereno E. Payne, Joseph Smith, December 10; Rear-Admiral Eugene W. Watson, December 11; Major-Gen. Sir Edward G. Brabant, December 12; Dr. Charles Périer, December 13; Giovanni Sgambati, Katherine M. Cohen, December 14.

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The Week

The call for an organization actively to combat the present craze for armaments, and to work along the lines of the President's message to preserve the moral prestige of the United States that it may lead the world in the direction of peace and disarmament, is headed by such New Yorkers as Bishop Greer, Nicholas Murray Butler, George Foster Peabody, Adolph Lewisohn, and Clarence H. Kelsey. The time has plainly come for those who are opposed to slavish American imitation of European armies—the tools, as Dr. Liebknecht, the German Social-Democratic leader, has just pointed out, of "war parties in the obscurity of absolutism and secret diplomacy"—to speak out. Women, too, are represented on the committee, which will, we trust, soon find an opportunity to protest to Congress against further militaristic expenditures. A great difficulty has been that the armor-makers, or their representatives, and the generals and admirals have been the ones to appear before the committees of Congress, and not those who believed in our peaceful mission and ideals. Hence it has come about that of every dollar appropriated by Congress, 70 cents have gone to wars, past or future, and only 30 cents to the cost of running the country and to every constructive enterprise such as irrigation—a state of affairs that future generations will regard as complete proof of our lack of intelligence and enlightenment. But the new organization would be fully justified if it existed only to combat the pernicious activities of the Navy League and those new societies which appear to be so deeply interested in obtaining facts already known to everybody.

Rumors are renewed that Prince Bülow, the new German Ambassador to Italy, will make glittering offers to the Italian Government in order to keep it friendly to Germany. What is really meant, of course, is that a great exertion will be made to prevent Italy from joining the Allies. To attain this it is plain that Germany would be prepared to go a long way. But to suppose that she would coolly propose, as the dispatches intimate she will, to give Italy the Trentino, as the price of friendship, is to stretch credulity. Such a step might placate Italy, but it would surely infuriate Austria. If any land-bribe at all is laid before Italy it will much more probably relate to French possessions in North Africa. But every suggestion of the kind is pretty certain to be frigidly received in Italy just now. As one Italian newspaper has remarked, the "nephews of Machiavelli" are not to be easily taken in by blandishments of which the occasion and the motive are so obvious. It is very likely, too, that the Italians will remind Prince Bülow of the rather depreciatory things which he wrote only last year about Italy's part in the Triple Alliance. He then frankly expected little of it, quoting a remark of Bismarck's to himself that it would be enough, in case of war, if Italy sent one corporal and one drummer to the French frontier. But even such a perfunctory adherence to the Triple Alliance has failed Germany this year. It is but one of the many broken diplomatic reeds on which she thought she could safely lean.

A German war correspondent, writing from Insterburg, Prussia, on the 17th of November, reported another great exodus from the region near the Russian boundary, more than 40,000 German refugees having passed through that town in the week previous to the date on which he wrote. He draws a terrible picture of the suffering and woe of the fugitives, of whom 25,000 were placed on trains and sent further into Prussia. Thousands upon thousands of them had abandoned everything except the clothes on their backs, and were seeking refuge elsewhere for the second time. Those that had horses saw them taken from them by the military authorities, and their abandoned wagons were left standing by the roadside. Small cities like Stallupönen, Goldap, and Gumbinnen have been emptied of their inhabitants, not five hundred remaining in the last-named, formerly a large and prosperous town. Having had one experience, they say, of the Russian invaders and their methods, the inhabitants of Gumbinnen preferred to abandon their all rather than risk another occupation. Should the Russians get further into Prussia or into Silesia, the problem of handling these refugees will be a very serious one for the Government, which already has to feed and care for fully three hundred thousand Russian prisoners. East Prussia, at least, is a marked exception to the German contention that so far the war has been carried on elsewhere than on German soil. In that province, there ought to be genuine sympathy with the Belgians.

The action of the Governing Board of the Pan-American Union, in forming a special commission to consider the new problems of international law thrust forward by the great war, has a twofold interest. As a serious and united endeavor, on the part of the nations of the Western Hemisphere, both to improve the body of rules affecting international conduct in time of war and to strengthen their authority, the move may be expected to be fruitful of important results. And the mere fact of this union of purpose, especially in view of the complete harmony of spirit manifested, is of the most hopeful augury. We are getting farther and farther away from the idea of the United States as the "big policeman" of the Continent, and nearer and nearer to that of a true comradeship and coöperation among the American republics, little and big, powerful and weak. Under the influence of such joint undertakings as this, and of such happenings as that of the A B C mediation of last spring, the jealousy which, through so many decades, has from time to time manifested itself in the Southern republics must grow steadily less, and may be expected to disappear entirely in a not distant future. That the United States is preponderant in population, wealth, and power need be no cause of suspicion or dislike; and it will not be, if our tact and good manners in dealing with our neighbors are as unexceptionable as the actual disposition of the nation towards them has been friendly and upright. The advance made towards a perfect understanding, within the past two years, is beyond anything that a short time ago seemed possible.

This is the short session of Congress, and everybody in Washington vows that there must be no extra session. Yet an amount of legislation is already being pressed forward that it would take months to consider duly. Its proponents may desire a short session, but they distinctly would not have it a merry one. If only the important bills now urged were to be enacted into law, Representatives and Senators would have to work like galley-slaves from now till the fourth of March. They would have to give up the holiday recess and have one crowded session of glorious law-making. The congestion, and the pushing and hauling and log-rolling to get the right of way for favored measures, would be terrible. Congress, for the next eleven weeks—really only nine working weeks—will be like the neck of a bottle through which there will be great difficulty in pouring the necessary appropriation bills. But if we are to credit some people, a large mass of other legislation is to be made to gurgle through. But let nobody believe it. The thing is physically impossible.

President Wilson proposed only a modest

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programme—as he evidently thought it. In his message to Congress he spoke only of the desirability of passing a couple of pending conservation bills, which are really not contentious; the Philippines bill, which is only a pledge of independence, and could be passed in a day, if the Senate were so minded; and the shipping bill. There's the rub. This whole question of the Government buying and operating ships is too vexed and complicated, the facts are too uncertain, the consequences too perilous, for it to be properly disposed of in the nooks and crannies of time left from other matters in the hurried two months and a half before this Congress expires. If there were no other argument adverse to the measure, this one ought to be conclusive against proceeding with it seriously at the present time. But in addition to this dubious piece of legislation, what do we see? The Immigration bill is made the unfinished business of the Senate. All kinds of military projects are to be pressed upon Congress. It is also actually proposed to amend the neutrality laws of the United States, to make this country stand apart from the established rules of international law in the matter of the duties and the rights of neutral nations and their citizens, all before March 4! Again we say, the thing is impossible.

Complaints are heard that there is not good "team-play" by the Administration at Washington. It is said that the various reports of the members of the Cabinet do not coincide, as closely as they should, with the President's views. Special emphasis is laid upon the report of the Secretary of War, which, in tone at least, if not very seriously in effect, differs from Mr. Wilson's message to Congress. Such lack of coördination is held up by Republican newspapers as a characteristic weakness of the Democrats, who are unfit to rule, and so on. Let's see, however. Was it a Democratic Postmaster-General who, a little while ago, off his own bat, recommended the purchase of the telegraph lines, and was it a Democratic President who squelched the proposal of his subordinate? Ask Hitchcock and Taft. The fact is that there has always been a certain leeway given to the Secretaries. Their own good sense would prevent them from advocating anything radical or startling, without submitting it to the President; but he certainly can't be expected to go over all of their annual reports with a blue pencil in hand. Perhaps he doesn't even read them. There are others who do not.

The most important administrative recommendation made by Postmaster-General Burleson in his annual report is that the rural free delivery service be put upon a contract basis which should replace the system of payment by annual salaries to the carriers. Mr. Burleson directs the attention of Congress to "the fact that this service is entailing upon the public Treasury an annual expense of $40,000,000 in excess of the revenues produced by the service"; and he states that the change would "make possible a saving of from $15,000,000 to $20,000,000 annually." So far as appears in the report, this estimate is based on a comparison of the average cost per mile of the rural delivery service on the one hand and of the "star-route" service on the other; a comparison which does not, on its face, strike one as conclusive, owing to the differences which exist between the conditions in the one set of routes and the other. Furthermore, it is generally understood that many of the "star-route" contracts are now being run at a loss, owing to the growth of the parcel-post traffic. The Postmaster-General strongly urges that "the necessary legislation for placing the rural free delivery on a contract basis be enacted"; but, while it may be quite true that his estimate of the saving that could be effected is correct, it hardly looks as though his data were adequate to establish this fact. Might it not be a good plan to try the experiment of the contract system in a limited but representative area, before going further in the matter? This would be in line with our usual practice in regard to similar postal problems.

Are members of Congress as much in need of expert guidance in legislation as members of State Legislatures? The announcement that we are to have a Federal service analogous to that of a Legislative Reference Bureau comes from the Library of Congress, which follows in this action the policy of many State libraries in undertaking such work without special provision. It is true that in 1906 Congress authorized an appropriation to enable the librarian "to prepare such indexes, digests, and compilations of laws as may be required for Congress." But the Library hopes soon to go beyond the original intent of this authorization. It is to employ a corps of experts in law, competent to analyze, summarize, and compare; an auxiliary corps of translators and indexers; and assistants familiar with the bibliographic apparatus of the law. In advance of any requisition by Congress, these men will systematically study portions of the law, and other material, likely to bear upon proposed legislation; present digests, translations, and comprehensive statements, heretofore seldom or never attempted; while there is a hint in the Library's report that they may ultimately provide for bill-drafting. If the experience of the States is any guide, the personal service of specially trained men will be found valuable. But it is to be remembered that in Congress the committees have themselves usually been efficient in obtaining information on any subject.

The death of William W. Rockhill would be regrettable at any time, but it is peculiarly so because he died outside of our own diplomatic service. His was an exceptionally useful and varied career. Few Americans have ever obtained so wide a knowledge of the Far East as came to him during eight years of diplomatic service in China, in addition to three years in China and Tibet on scientific expeditions in the interest of the Smithsonian Institution. When it is added that he served four years in the State Department, was for two years Minister to Greece, Servia, and Rumania, and was Ambassador to Russia and Turkey from 1909 to 1913, his remarkable diplomatic experience is evident. For special missions such as the representation of the United States in the settlement of the Boxer troubles, he was frequently called upon. Yet when the Wilson Administration came in, this rarely equipped diplomat was permitted to resign. China, however, valued him more highly than his own Government, and he was en route to his post as adviser to the Chinese President when his career was so suddenly and lamentably ended.

There has been an alarming recrudescence of lynching in the South, whether as a reflex of the wholesale killing in Europe or for some other reason. In Caddo Parish, Louisiana, no less than eight mob-murders of negroes have taken place within ten days, because of the murders of two white men and an attack upon a white woman. Two hundred whites placed themselves on the level of the lowest negro criminal by publicly burning an aged colored man who protested his innocence to the end. Not the slightest proof of guilt was forthcoming. One negro woman was severely beaten by the mob. Of the others, several were taken from jails and hanged; but neither the Governor nor the local authorities, it appears, made the slightest effort to stop the lynching or to punish the guilty. In Fairfield County,

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South Carolina, they have done better. There, a negro woman was found dead, a victim of the vilest of crimes, and three white men are in jail for it, one of whom has confessed. As the Columbia, S. C., *State* says, this case "promises to test sharply the sincerity of Southern pretensions about the protection of women." It points out that a negro was lynched in the near-by Florence County merely because he was found under a white man's house, and asks: "Confronted with the Fairfield story, what reply shall a Southerner make to Northern critics when they say that talk about 'the one crime' is the shallow and hypocritical pretext for lawless and savage manifestations of race prejudice?"

A word of commendation is called for by the action of the executive board of the United Mine Workers of America in terminating the Colorado strike. Their statement of the reasons for doing so is dignified and sober in tone, and contains—at least so far as the press dispatch shows—no matter calculated to renew bitterness or hostility. That in the struggle itself there was fault on both sides, is universally recognized; but the thing to do now is to make as nearly an absolutely fresh start as possible. This is facilitated by the President's appointment of a Commission to look into any disputes that may arise, and to this fact the Mine Workers' board makes special reference in announcing its decision. With the withdrawal of the Federal troops, and the apparent realization at last by the Colorado authorities of their responsibility for the preservation of order and the enforcement of the laws, there is reason to hope that this most unfortunate episode in our industrial history has really come to an end.

Boston newspapers are indignant over the pardon by Gov. Walsh of John A. Hall, ex-treasurer of the Southbridge Savings Bank. After stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars deposited in the bank of which he was one of the guardians, he has served less than five years of the term of twelve to fifteen years to which he was sentenced. The familiar plea of shattered health was made in his behalf; "if he were confined in State prison for two years more it would kill him." The time for Hall to have avoided this danger to his precious life was when he was out of prison. The Boston *Transcript* says that Gov. Walsh gave "repeated assurances at the beginning of his Administration that he would not tolerate a return by the Council to the flagrant abuses of the pardoning power which had disgraced previous administrations." What makes the action of the Governor and Council the more reprehensible is that the Parole Board had unanimously recommended that the pardon be not granted. There is a good deal of point in the Boston *Herald's* comparison with the notorious Blease: "When Cole Blease, Governor of South Carolina, 'turns 'em loose,' he does so without distinction of condition or social backing." "What excuse," asks the *Transcript*, "has the Governor for his action in the Hall case, and what defence dare the Council offer for thus mocking justice in Massachusetts and making of it a commonwealth where the rich thief may rob the poor without fear of paying the penalty?"

Social-justice shouters should obtain an injunction against the Illinois Supreme Court for committing acts in restraint of their trade. Twenty years ago, the Legislature of that State passed a law limiting women's hours of labor in certain occupations. The Court held the act unconstitutional, backing its decision with an opinion that apparently doomed all similar measures. Since then the Legislature has placed upon the statute books a juvenile-court law, a parole law, a law creating a mines' and miners' board, a structural-ironworkers' act, an employers' liability act, an act requiring safety appliances of common carriers, an act regulating the employment of women in mechanical and mercantile establishments, laundries, and factories. During this time, the Constitution has not undergone amendment, nor has most of this legislation been passed since the raising of the cry for social justice. The Court has simply been reconstituted in the natural process of events, until its Chief Justice is a man who takes occasion to commend the State for its record in regard to legislation of this character.

That the American public is not wholly indifferent to coin designs was shown by its characteristic comment on the buffalo five-cent piece—that the *"E pluribus unum"* could now be translated, "The only one left." But how genuine is the feeling for the artistic value of coins? This is a question which the American Numismatic Society proposes to test. In 1905 it obtained action which gave us Saint-Gaudens's double-eagle and eagle, and Bela L. Pratt's half-eagle and quarter-eagle. Its dealing with our more democratic coins will be a fairer sounding of public opinion. Is it true that the figure of Liberty on our silver coins is "a mere caricature," "an insult both to the Goddess of Liberty and to the beauty of American womanhood"? Is it true that "the nondescript effigy called an eagle cannot compare with the glorious eagles on the magnificent coins of . . . France, Germany, Russia, and Austria"? Many artists will doubtless agree; but will a population whose hands have been subdued to this money since 1892? Washington is said to be congratulating itself on the new designs for paper currency, but that is in different case; the pictures of symbolical figures, of the pioneers, of Indian-fighting, of early locomotives, were out of date, and will be fitly replaced by those of the ocean liner, the battleship, the factory, and the New York sky-line. The pertinency of the Numismatic Society's movement lies in the fact that in 1917 it will again be legal to change the designs without special act of Congress. If it can suggest better types, and quell the suspicion that a numismatist has professional reasons for wishing frequent changes in coinage, it will deserve to succeed.

In Australia, as in Canada, the outbreak of war submerged party animus in Imperial sentiment, though the Commonwealth was then in the throes of a general election. It now appears that the Liberals appealed to the electors partly on the ground that the return of the Laborites would be a vote of censure on the war policy, and an approval of separation from England. This was so unjust that it is not surprising that it carried no force. The six States chose six Senators each, and of the thirty-six the Labor party obtained thirty-one; while their majority in the House of Representatives is overwhelming. The real issue was a labor-preference bill, the Liberal House having tried for fourteen months to pass a measure forbidding the preference of union men on public works, and having been blocked by the Labor Senate. Governor-General Ferguson, at the instance of the Liberal Premier, Mr. Cook, then dissolved both houses. In internal policy, Mr. Fisher, again head of the Labor Cabinet, has announced a programme of Australian nationalism, a higher tariff on foreign goods in protection of native industries, and a referendum for Constitutional amendments to facilitate the suppression of Trusts and the nationalization of public utilities. Evidently, radicalism is in the saddle. As for Imperial relations, the Australian contingent, the Australian navy, and the newly announced preferential tariff rates with England, speak for themselves.

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THE BACKGROUND OF THE WAR.

It cannot be said that the French diplomatic correspondence, published in full by the New York *Times* on Sunday, compels anybody to reconstruct his theory of the causes of the war. No positively new facts are supplied. It is simply the former story again, told from another point of view. But this is a very interesting point of view. The French Foreign Office was particularly well served in Vienna, in Rome, and in Berlin; and the reports from the Ambassadors of France in those capitals are highly intelligent and instructive. They do not, perhaps, throw any startling light upon the diplomatic negotiations before the war. Those were already pretty clear in the official publications of Great Britain and Germany, Russia and Belgium. But this French version is valuable in the way of confirming and amplifying what was known. It fills certain gaps in our knowledge, and helps to place the affair in its true perspective.

In his dispatches from Vienna, the French Ambassador, M. Dumaine, aids us in seeing how confident—really over-confident—Austria was. She expected scarcely any difficulty in imposing her will upon Servia. She evidently counted upon Germany's supporting her up to the hilt. Any movement from the side of Russia she believed would come to no more than did the Russian protest in 1909, at the time of the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Here is an extract from the Austrian *Militärische Rundschau* which Ambassador Dumaine telegraphed on July 15:

> The moment is still favorable for us. If we do not decide upon war, the war we shall have to make in two or three years at the latest will be begun in circumstances much less propitious; now the initiative belongs to us. Russia is not ready, the moral factors are for us, might as well as right. Since some day we shall have to accept the struggle, let us provoke it at once. Our prestige, our position as a great Power, our honor, are in question. There is more still, for, in all probability, it is our existence which is at stake. "To be or not to be"—that is really the big business of to-day.

Passing to another member of the Triple Alliance, we find in the French Yellow Book several significant dispatches bearing upon Italy's attitude during the crisis. Fresh proof is given that the Italian Government was not taken into the confidence of Germany and Austria, in the matter of the Austrian ultimatum to Servia. Ambassador Cambon telegraphed from Berlin on July 25 that he had it from the Italian Ambassador there that "Italy is much surprised, to say nothing stronger, at having been kept out of the whole affair by her allies." And the French Foreign Office pointed out on July 26 that "Italy is bound by the engagements of the Triple Alliance only in matters in which she has been previously consulted." That she felt herself not so bound, when the war actually came, has been made abundantly plain. But in these dispatches we have it put down precisely at the time. On August 1 Ambassador Barrère telegraphed from Rome that the German Ambassador had asked what the intentions of Italy were as regards the war. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Marquis di San Giuliano, replied that as "the war had an aggressive character, and was not in accordance with the purely defensive character of the Triple Alliance, Italy could not take part." Here is plainly an important and contemporary opinion as to "who began it."

It is, however, the information sent to Paris from Berlin that is the most suggestive part of the Yellow Book. It dates back a year. We see more clearly than ever before how narrowly Europe escaped being plunged into war in 1913, when the Balkan War was having its troubled *sequelæ*. It was in April of that year that the French War Office came into possession of a secret and official report of the German army. Its authenticity we cannot, of course, vouch for; but it certainly reads like a genuine study of the effect of the new army laws, and of the international situation. The whole document will repay close reading. We can note here only the announcement in advance that "we could not in any way offer Belgium any guarantees of the security of her neutrality." And no one can doubt that the following figure of speech, referring to what the German army would do, came from a German source, whether it was official or not: "The aroused eagle will take its flight and seizing the enemy in its sharpened claws render him harmless." We append a statement also made in 1913, according to Ambassador Cambon, by Gen. von Moltke. He was speaking of the purpose of the General Staff to act by surprise, and remarked:

> The commonplaces as to the responsibility of the aggressor must be disregarded. When war has become necessary it must be waged by ranging all the chances on one's own side. Success alone justifies it. Germany cannot and must not give Russia time to mobilize, or she will be obliged to maintain on the eastern frontier a force which would leave her in a position of equality, if not of inferiority, in front of France. Therefore we must forestall our principal adversary immediately; there are nine chances in ten that we are going to have war, and we must begin war without waiting, in order brutally to crush all resistance.

There is no need to extend the citations. They would only piece out our knowledge of the foregoing period and of the days just preceding the war. It is a terrible impression which the whole must make on a sensitive mind—the military party everywhere gradually getting the upper hand, rulers recklessly playing the game of life or death for millions of the people. We are, as it were, let in at the laying of a subterranean mine, of which the explosion shook the world. And nothing is more disheartening than the way in which monarchs and diplomats pressed on with their plans, in the most perfect assurance that they could not make a mistake, although, as everybody can now see, they were deceived and deluded right and left. This French correspondence once more brings out the fact that Germany utterly miscalculated the action of England. On July 29 Jules Cambon telegraphed from Berlin: "Up to these very last few days people have flattered themselves here that England would remain aloof, and the impression produced by her attitude upon the German Government, financiers, and business men is profound."

LEST WE FORGÈT FRANCE.

For various reasons, France has seemed during the past two months to have partially dropped out of American thought and sympathies. Throughout August and the first part of September her apparently impending tragic fate was ever present to our minds. Next after Belgium, she most appealed. But since the staying of the tide of invasion north of Paris, we have somehow given less attention to the place of the French in the terrible coil of war. Both the pathos and the crisis of the struggle have appeared to be situated elsewhere. And the great qualities displayed by the French people, during all this time of the trying of their souls, have not impressed themselves upon our consciousness and our imagination so powerfully as they might have been expected to do. At least, so it might be judged from current talk and the drift of discussion and the perspective of the war news.

But few words need be spent upon the military aspects of the matter. That the French army surprised the world, is generally admitted. And it is worth while noting upon what point admiration of it has focussed. This was its splendid recovery of spirit after initial defeats. That was scarcely looked for. When German army after German army drove back the French in August, when there were evidences of uncer-

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tainty and confusion in the French military plans, when more than one French general in command was guilty of incompetence or worse, it looked as if the boasts of the German bulletins might be better justified than we liked to admit, and that "Gen. Joffre's army was incapable of further resistance." But all this was soon proved false. The *morale* of the French army reasserted itself promptly; and the valiant and determined and inexpugnable front which it has since opposed to the Germans has wrung tributes from even the enemy. The transformation of the dashing French trooper into the soldier with a bull-dog grip has been described by the President of the French Republic. "As the course of the hostilities has gone its way," wrote M. Poincaré to the Minister of War, "the French soldier, while losing nothing of his impetuosity and courage, has learned by experience to adapt his natural qualities to the demands of the military operations. He maintains an unequalled power on the offensive, and at the same time schools himself in patience and in tenacity." The known facts bear out the assertion.

It is, however, mainly the manifestation of French national character away from the actual fighting that kindles admiration. Even the ardent lovers of France could hardly have counted upon so fine an exhibition. Most of the traits which we proverbially and all too lightly associate with the French people have gleamed by their absence. There was little that looked like unbalancing excitement or panic of soul. Nor was there much posturing or rhetoric. In the face of what was certainly a fearful danger, and what might easily result in a national catastrophe, France was calm. The people summoned all their reserves of strength and capacity to endure, and gave the world an inspiring example of a nation prepared to drain the bitterest cup without whimpering. The indomitable spirit with which men and women in France made ready to go through inevitable sufferings and misery, together with their energy in resisting the thrust of disaster at every point possible, their fertility of resource and of hope in the dark days, and the fine resilience with which they bent back like tempered steel to their assigned tasks, will compel many a hasty critic to revise his opinion of French lightness and instability. Never did France rise to a higher stature.

To the attitude of her men of science, her writers, her professors, separate reference may be made. Amid the devastation of war, France has clung with pathetic eagerness to her art, her literature, her universities. The University of France opened its doors as usual. What though hundreds of its students were with the army and many of its professors were doing military service? It was for the University to go on with its work in dignity and serenity. The great tradition must be maintained. As it is expressed by René Doumic, who himself passed his first year at college in a besieged Paris, in 1870, "the University does not admit that a single one of those who have the honor to belong to it is not at his post" —whether that post be in a trench or in a classroom. Either way, the magnificent union of French hearts is shown, as is also the "nobly humane" nature of the culture for which France stands steadfast.

All that we have said can be admitted by even those most scrupulous in guarding against unneutral conduct during this war. If the German Crown Prince, if the Kaiser himself, can pause in the midst of conflict to bestow praise upon the high qualities exhibited by the French, Americans need not feel it necessary to stint their applause. For it is a kind of addition to the moral assets of the world which France has been making in the course of these terrible months. In being forced to think better things of the French nature, we shall be prevented from ever thinking meanly of human nature in general. France has unlocked her soul for the nations to see; and so doing helps us to understand of what depths and what heights, what tragedies and what splendors, mankind is capable.

THE REPORT OF THE TREASURY.

The occasions are not numerous when the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury—usually a matter of routine estimates and forecasts—embodies a chapter of great historic interest. It is apt to do so only at times, such as 1894 or 1907, when the Government has had to intervene with protective measures in a great economic crisis. This, in a notable degree, has been the character of the period since the European war began; the Treasury report which was submitted to Congress last week is the record of the Government's part in meeting the financial storm which came with the outbreak of hostilities.

The high service rendered by the Administration in that crisis, through the promptness, soundness, and vigor of the measures taken, has been fully and frankly recognized, even by political opponents. We have in mind the instance of a financier long hostile to the Wilson Administration, who, when asked in the early days of August if our lack of a great financial leader in that crisis was not unfortunate, replied that we had discovered such a leader in President Wilson. Certainly, the inspiration and the impetus for each of the expedients adopted to protect the country's credit situation came primarily from the White House. The cordial personal coöperation of the Administration with men in the high places of finance not only simplified the programme of relief, but was full of favorable omen for the future. It may easily have foreshadowed, as so many other signs of the times have done, a new era in the relations of Government and "Big Business."

Secretary McAdoo's report reviews the measures taken to meet the midsummer crisis. On July 31, the day when the sudden closing of the Stock Exchange pointed out the character of the situation, the Treasury Department publicly announced its purpose to "help, as far as it legitimately may, in New York or in any other part of the country where it becomes apparent that assistance is needed"; and it proposed the immediate recourse by the banks to the emergency currency of the Aldrich-Vreeland Act. A day later, the Treasury called a conference of Clearing-House authorities, and on August 2 the Secretary came in person to New York to arrange with the leading banks for protective measures.

There was issued to national banks at New York, as the Treasury report now shows, $141,228,000 of this emergency currency, and $228,330,040 throughout the whole country. To this expedient, applied with the greatest promptness, is unquestionably to be ascribed the absence of money-hoarding and of a premium on currency, such as marked our previous financial panics. Indeed, the word "panic" can hardly be applied with propriety to our financial history in the past four months. It was stopped at its beginning, as was the simultaneous London panic, by the public evidence that the banks, with the Government behind them, were united in maintaining the credit situation. The redemption and retirement of these emergency issues, Mr. McAdoo believes, "will not present a difficult problem." In point of fact, more than $100,000,000 has already been retired by the New York banks alone, and upwards of $130,000,000 in the whole United States.

It was directly under the auspices of the Treasury, early in August, that committees of well-known business men were named, after a general conference at Washington, to confer and coöperate with the Government

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as to the means of solving the unprecedented problems surrounding foreign exchange, ocean transportation, and war-risk insurance. In an attempt to surmount the very great difficulties in these matters the greater part of the work was properly committed to the banks, as in the case of the $100,000,000 fund to take up New York city's foreign obligations, and the further $100,000,000 gold fund, designed for the regulation of the foreign exchange market. But in each of these expedients the Administration gave essential help through the new Federal Reserve Board, promptly and wisely selected by the President; and in such other questions as the war-risk insurance, which for the time was all but prohibitive to our foreign trade, it obtained from Congress the prompt action which was necessary. Not least important was the admitted fact that every unsound and extravagant plan urged on the Government in the excitement of the crisis was summarily rejected.

We have mentioned only a few of the protective or remedial measures furthered by the Government, in conjunction with the financial community organized under the auspices of the Government. The Treasury report is abundantly warranted in declaring that the averting of an actual panic, with the gravest after-consequences, was distinctly due to "the prompt and effective action of the Treasury Department, with the cordial and intelligent coöperation of the banking and business interests of the country." Mr. McAdoo takes a hopeful view of the financial and industrial outlook, and in particular "looks forward with the greatest confidence" to the effects of the new reserve banking organization "upon American enterprise and American business." There are, indeed, few people who to-day will dispute the statement that the effective working establishment of that system—due to the resolute pressure of President Wilson—has occurred at the ideal psychological moment.

The provisions of the Federal Reserve law, as enacted, never threatened inflation of the currency. But there were many intelligent observers who had expressed misgiving as to possible over-expansion of credit if the system should happen to go into operation during a business "boom." There can be no such danger under the present circumstances—in which, indeed, the business public's knowledge of the facilities which now exist for granting larger credit, if required, is the surest guarantee that uneasiness over the general situation will be relieved, and borrowings kept down to actual needs.

A WESTERN NATURE POET.

The distinction of Madison Cawein, whose death is announced from Louisville, was as the best poet of nature the West has produced, and one of the best in the last generation in America; it was his limitation that he was little but a nature-poet. Of the fact that his work lay virtually in one field the critics have indeed made too much. It is true that his volumes, "Myth and Romance," "Weeds by the Wall," "A Voice on the Wind," "Kentucky Poems," "Days and Dreams," are all chiefly of nature, often its mythological or romantic associations, but more often purely descriptive—written to render an æsthetic picture. But his descriptions are not purely external or wanting in poetic insight, and their recurrence is far from tiresome. Invited to estimate Cawein's poetry, Mr. Howells tells us that he asked, "Why always nature poems? Why not human-nature poems?"

But in seizing upon an objection so obvious that I ought to have known it was superficial, I had wronged a poet who had never done me harm in the very terms and conditions of his being a poet. I had made his reproach what ought to have been his finest praise, what is always the praise of poetry when it is not artificial and formal. I ought to have said, as I had seen, that not one of his lovely landscapes in which I could see no human figure but thrilled with a human presence penetrating to it from his most sensitive and subtle spirit until it was all but painfully alive with memories, with regrets, with longings, with hopes, with all that from time to time mutably constitutes us men and women, and yet keeps us children.

And it could be pointed out that the poet at times stepped successfully outside the narrower circle. "The Feud" is a dramatic episode of Kentucky; "Ku Klux" is as graphic; there are one or two real dramas, and lyrics in numbers—for Cawein was over-prolific—full of a rather pensive interpretation of youthful romance, with its incidents chosen impartially from Greece, England, the Germany of his ancestors, or Kentucky.

To analyze the qualities which made Cawein unique in his descriptions of Western nature, and discover why, among the Hays, Hoveys, Rileys, Piatts, Fieldses, Maurice Thompsons, he should hold his own place, is an interesting inquiry. No other had either his taste for nature or his exact eye. In this scientific age, when Maeterlinck makes an exhaustive study of the bee an illustration of his poetic philosophy, and Tennyson's successors know not only that ash-buds are black early in March, but many other botanical facts, he was our one distinctive poet-naturalist. Of dittany and the yellow puccoon he has written exactly, of mallow, ironweed, bluet, and jewel-weed, the cohosh, the bell-flower, the oxalis, the Indian-pipe; from his books a manual of Kentucky flora and fauna might be made. He is helped by a sense of the atmosphere of place that pervades his larger landscapes; and by a knack for the felicitous epithet—an inspiration, Howells remarked, "for the right word, and the courage of it, so that though in the first instant you may be challenged, you may be revolted, by something you thought uncouth, you are presently overcome by the happy bravery of it." Both appear in "The Rain-crow":

Can freckled August—drowsing warm and blonde
Beside a wheat-shock in the white-topped mead,
In her hot hair the oxeyed daises wound—
O bird of rain, lend aught but sleepy heed
To thee? When no plumed weed, no feather'd seed
Blows by her; and no ripple breaks the pond,
That gleams like flint between its rim of grasses,
Through which the dragonfly forever passes
Like splintered diamond?

Drought weighs the trees, and from the farm-house eaves
The locust, pulse-beat of the summer day,
Throbs; and the lane that shambles under leaves
Limp with the heat—a league of rutty way—
Is lost in dust; and sultry scents of hay
Breathe from the panting meadows heaped with sheaves—
Now, now, O bird, what hint is there of rain
In thirsty heaven or on burning plain
That thy keen eye perceives?

And this brief quotation gives little hint of Cawein's fidelity as a naturalist.

Something like this zest for nature we have had from the Merrimac and Hudson—why not more from the Wabash and Mississippi? In explanation of Cawein's narrow vein, the natural theory has been the thinness of the social world about him; he was driven to nature-verse by the same want of background and history of which Hawthorne complained at an earlier period in the East. But so great is the modern Western solicitude for a poet to express its native social ideals and spirit that the theory hardly holds. What is the glory that is attributed to Riley? That his very sentimentality is the expression of a sectional attribute, that his verse is rooted in the soil by its dialect and content. Piatt's "Western Windows" were acclaimed because they looked out on real Western life. Hay's "Pike County Ballads" had historical truth. In reality, Western poetry has been less inclined to neglect history and life for nature than to do the opposite; and this tendency is to-day as strong as ever.

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Chronicle of the War

The official dispatches from Paris and Berlin give a clear idea of the nature of the fighting in France and Flanders and of the difficulties which the offensive of the Allies must encounter. The Germans, we may assume, have not been idle during their long occupation of their present lines, and they will have made all preparations in case of a retreat. Belgium, in fact, may be regarded as a huge field fortress, seamed and intersected with trenches, in many places reinforced with steel and concrete, and having guns already mounted or ready to be mounted at various defensive points. It is not surprising, therefore, to read in the French official statements of progress achieved in various places of from one hundred to six hundred yards. A thousand yards in this kind of warfare represents a notable advance. Progress of a mile might almost be described as a sweeping victory.

Under these circumstances, although we may rightly speak of the Allies as having assumed the offensive, we can probably look for no considerable advance in the near future. Progress has been made in many parts of the line since we wrote last week, notably in completing the clearance of the Germans from the west bank of the Yser, but it has been so small as to be barely perceptible on any but a large-scale map. Gen. Joffre's method is patient and thorough: trenches are taken one at a time, and the new positions are consolidated before any further advance is undertaken. A good deal of the fighting recently has consisted of artillery duels, and the French field guns apparently have continued to demonstrate their superiority over the German. The offensive of the French and British is serving its main purpose in preventing the withdrawal of more German corps for service on the eastern front, and this is probably all that it expects to achieve until the arrival of strong British reinforcements shall give to the Allies a considerable superiority of numbers.

One of the greatest surprises of this surprising war was the announcement at the beginning of the week of what looks like a decisive Servian victory, so far as any isolated success can be called decisive. After the capture of Belgrade on December 2, although the actual loss of the city need not necessarily have had a serious effect on the military situation, it was generally assumed, in view of the reports of successive Austrian victories and of the occupation of the northwestern corner of the kingdom, that Servian resistance was virtually broken down. The entire army of Servia consisted at the beginning of the war of possibly rather more than a quarter of a million men. Depleted by the losses incurred in resisting two successive invasions by Austria and in conducting its own aggressive campaign into Bosnia in August, it could hardly be expected, with only the assistance of the small Montenegrin army, to rally sufficiently to stem the tide of the third Austrian invasion. Yet this is what has happened. The beginning of a series of Servian victories which resulted in the Austrian evacuation of Belgrade on Sunday or Monday, was announced in a dispatch dated December 8, which stated that the Austrian centre had been broken and the towns of Valjevo and Ushitza retaken. The capture of Kosmai, thirty miles south of Belgrade, was announced on December 12. The right wing of the Austrians, which had been smashed by the breaking of the centre, retreated across the Drina into Bosnia and was there attacked by the Montenegrin army near Vishegrad and again defeated. The completeness of the Servian victory is amply confirmed by official announcements from Vienna, which admit the defeat and indicate that the Austrian forces will be content to remain on the defensive.

It is interesting to note the manner in which the various campaigns act and react the one upon the other. The Servian victory helps to explain much that was puzzling in the development of the Russian strategy. Reports were published ten days ago, when the fortunes of Servia seemed to be at their lowest ebb, that Russian reinforcements had been dispatched from Archangel and landed at Antivari. Archangel is apparently the source of many rumors, and this one was, if anything, a trifle more absurd than that which transported Russian troops to the north of Scotland and thence to the battlefields of Belgium. At the same time, Russian strategy appears to have had a good deal to do with the Servian victory. In the light of what has happened on the Drina, we can explain the Russian incursion into Hungary, which has appeared hitherto to have been undertaken without definite object in view, and we can also explain the turning of the tide in this region in favor of Austria and the casual mention in the official statement from Petrograd of Austrian columns "coming down the northern slopes of the Carpathians." The aggression into Hungary appears to have been undertaken mainly with the idea of relieving pressure on the small Servian army. If so, the plan was entirely successful, for we learn that in order to meet the invasion three of the seven Austrian army corps engaged against Servia were detached and sent to Hungary. Hence the victory of the Servian army, whose powers of recuperation were doubtless underrated by Austria; hence, too, the reverse suffered by the Russians in Hungary, a reverse which we may assume was expected and deliberately faced. Once again Russia has deserved well of her allies for her readiness to sacrifice herself for the good of the common cause.

There need be no difficulty in reconciling Austrian reports of the occupation of Neu Sandec, forty miles southeast of Cracow, and of other towns still further away, with the Russian contention that Cracow is still being hard pressed. The Austrian troops that have occupied Neu Sandec are presumably those which have pursued the Russians across the Carpathians from Hungary, and the Russian forces may be supposed to be presenting two fronts to the enemy, one facing south towards the Carpathians, the other west, menacing Cracow. Elsewhere the progress of the campaign appears, as we write, to have again taken a turn favorable to Russia. In the centre in Poland, on the line between Lowicz and Lodz, stonewall positions appear to have been established similar to those which exist in Flanders, the German advance upon Pietrkow seems to have been checked, and the evacuation of Lodz to have had no appreciable effect on the military situation. To the north the German offensive operating from Mlawa has failed, if we may credit unofficial reports, somewhat disastrously, and official statements from Petrograd speak of the German forces in this quarter being pushed steadily back. The movement, which was proclaimed as an attack on Warsaw, can in any case only have been intended as a diversion, since the number of troops engaged in it, two army corps, was too small to contemplate a serious offensive against the powerful fortress of Novogeorgievsk, which guards the path to the capital.

On the sea Great Britain has gone far towards redeeming the succession of disasters that she has suffered, and it seems not unfair to assume that the reinstatement of Sir John Fisher as First Lord of the Admiralty and the appointment to an advisory position at the Admiralty of Sir Percy Scott are in part responsible for the assumption of a more astute and a more enterprising strategy. On December 8, off the Falkland Islands, in the South Atlantic, a British squadron under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Sturdee encountered the German squadron, under Admiral Count von Spee, which on November 1 sunk the Good Hope and other British vessels. An engagement ensued, in which the German cruisers Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, and Leipzig were sunk in a running fight which lasted for some five hours. Some survivors were rescued from the Gneisenau and the Leipzig, but the majority of the crews of the German vessels, including Admiral von Spee, presumably went down with their ships. The British casualties were light, consisting of seven men killed and four wounded. The composition of the British squadron is not known, but it may be assumed that it included powerful battle cruisers of the Invincible type, which outclassed any of the German ships. The lighter cruisers, Nürnberg and Dresden, of the German squadron, apparently tried to avoid battle, but the Nürnberg was pursued and sunk late the same day. The Dresden succeeded in escaping and took refuge at Punta Arenas, a port of Chili in the Strait of Magellan. There or elsewhere she will probably be interned. The destruction of this squadron virtually frees the seas of German warships, only the small cruisers Karlsruhe and Bremen and the converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm remaining at large.

Another naval exploit of considerably less intrinsic importance but infinitely more spectacular, and valuable in the reassuring effect that it will have in England as to the efficiency and enterprise of the navy, was the sinking by a British submarine in the Dardanelles, on December 13, of the Turkish battleship Messudieh. The feat evidently involved a fine display of seamanship and daring. Submarine navigation in the Dardanelles is rendered exceptionally difficult on account of the narrowness of the channel and the force of the currents. In this instance, the difficulties were increased by the fact that the Dardanelles have been freely mined. It is stated, in fact, that the submarine B-11, under the command of Lieut.-Commander Norman B. Holbrook, dived successively under five rows of mines in reaching its goal. In escaping after successfully torpedoing the battleship it was subjected to gun fire from the forts and at one time remained submerged for nine hours. The actual loss of the battleship is not a particularly serious one, as she was a very old vessel and was useful only for purposes of defence, having been built in 1874 and reconstructed in 1903.

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Foreign Correspondence

SIR JOHN FRENCH'S QUARTERS—LONDON DARKER THAN EVER—THE PARLIAMENTARY TRUCE.

By SIR HENRY LUCY.

WESTMINSTER, November 28.

It is well to know, as I learned yesterday from an officer temporarily returned from the front, that, during his brief illness, Lord Roberts was lodged in comfortable quarters, and had the advantage of the immediate attendance of skilful doctors. Two were on the spot, and a third was hurried down from a hospital in Boulogne. Sir John French has had the good fortune to obtain the tenancy of a comfortable château, the home of a well-to-do Belgian. His old chief and much-loved friend was his guest during his brief stay "among the soldiers he loved and within sound of the guns." "Where is the château?" I asked, an idle question certainly put without guile. My friend, hitherto pleasantly communicable, immediately dried up. "Not far from the fighting line," he said, with a quiet smile. That was near enough for any one, including German aviators, to know.

The depth of absurdity to which official man can sink is indicated by the action of the Press Censor. A parallel is found in the proceedings of whosoever is responsible for the darkening of London. Apprehension of a visit from a Zeppelin to the metropolis is a legitimate source of pleasure to the Germans. It may be well founded. But some of the precautions taken suggest an old lady in a fright. Special precautions have been taken to screen Buckingham Palace from the observation of hostile aviators. In common with other thoroughfares only a few of the electric lamps in the Mall are burning, and the light is turned half on. Within the last week another happy thought has struck the watchful custodian. He has had the top of the lamp blackened so that no light is thrown upward.

That is a precaution common to all thoroughfares. But behind and in front of Buckingham Palace lurk two particular dangers. One is the pretty stretch of water in St. James's Park. The other is the lake in the private ground in Buckingham Palace garden, whereon upon rare fête days watermen arrayed in royal scarlet row delighted guests. It is recognized that, on moonlight nights, these might serve as range-finders for the aviator looking for the palace. The water has accordingly been drawn off, unsightly excavations showing where once flowed ornamental stretches of water. Nor is this all. An added attraction to the statue of Queen Victoria, a year or two ago set up in front of the Palace, was a fountain whose clear waters splashed into a marble trough. This dangerous feature of the roadway has also been removed.

This is all very well for Buckingham Palace, but what about the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, and the miles of houses, public buildings, and warehouses through which the Thames glides, say from Richmond to Greenwich? If a German airman wants to find his way about London at night he will not care for the lakes in St. James's Park and the gardens of Buckingham Palace, or even for the fountain that plays round the base of the statue of Queen Victoria, so long as he has the silver Thames.

Among minor public inconveniences arising out of the fussiness that grievously depresses life in London just now, is the silencing of clock chimes and the non-lighting of familiar clock faces. "The curfew will not sound to-night" from Big Ben, nor, indeed, will any other bell through the round of the twenty-four hours. Silent also are the chimes of Westminster Roman Catholic Cathedral, which formerly, to the great convenience of a circle of householders clustered round it, thrice told to a second the time of day. If the incessant roar of the streets ascending to high heaven were compulsorily hushed, these innocent chimes might well be left to perform their useful public service. The conduct of the authorities in these respects recalls a familiar pantomime scene wherein, riot breaking forth in a crowded group, the policeman, selecting the smallest, most innocent boy, hales him off to prison.

Among the latest edicts issued in the name of public safety is one directing railway passengers to draw down the blinds of the carriages in which they travel at night. Another reduces the illuminating power of electric lamps on the upper staircases of flats to the proportion of a farthing dip. Meanwhile, over studiously darkened London there from time to time flashes the uncanny gleam of a searchlight. To the simple-minded it would appear that this phenomenon would be more useful to the man in charge of the Zeppelin than top lights in London flats, or even the beaming countenance of "Big Ben."

Up to the hour of adjournment for the Christmas recess the truce established between political parties in the House of Commons was loyally maintained. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, presenting a budget for whose stupendous proportions there is no parallel, was unhampered by opposition. With characteristic adroitness he "nobbled" the official financial spokesman of the Opposition, inviting Mr. Austen Chamberlain to a private conference upon details of the budget. It is not certain that these halcyon times will be renewed when Parliament reassembles in the New Year for what may be regarded as the dispatch of ordinary business. As the price of their coöperation in meeting the financial exigencies of the war the Opposition demand that while it lasts no controversial measures shall be put forward by the Government. Mr. Asquith has agreed to this as a general principle. But the Abolition of Plural Voters bill, a relic of two preceding sessions, will certainly be carried through the automatic stage provided by the Parliament act that will add it to the statute-book in good time for the general election.

Ministers are pledged to make a further legislative effort to carry a bill amending the Home Rule act in the direction of satisfying the Ulster members. But they are not bound to persevere to the end if such persistence should threaten continuance of the peace and order which just now reign at Westminster. The scheme of Home Rule enacted before the prorogation was of their devising, and they have paternal satisfaction with its completeness and efficacy. If they can by amicable settlement meet objections raised in quarters where the bill was from the first vigorously fought, they will be glad. But they are not likely to show themselves enthusiastic in the matter, nor disposed in present circumstances to set a light to the funeral pyre of controversy.

The Prize Court

AN OLD INSTITUTION REVIVED BY THE WAR—CHANGES IN PROCEDURE.

There are two broad points of view from which the British Prize Court may be regarded—the historical and the practical. When Sir Samuel Evans, the President of the Admiralty Division, took his seat in the Prize Court on September 4, 1914, he was, after a lapse of sixty-four years, renewing the work of Lord Stowell and of Dr. Lushington. A distinct historical continuity marks the British Prize Court, for though in 1914 the place where it was held was changed, the court itself was in effect the same as that in Doctors' Commons, under the shadow of St. Paul's Cathedral, over which the monumental figure of Lord Stowell presided for so many years during the Napoleonic wars. It was Stowell who, fortunate in his time, and specially fitted for his task, formulated English prize law in a series of judicial decisions remarkable alike for their clear reasoning and their admirable phraseology.

If we look back from the eighteenth century the Prize Court is to be seen a distinct legal institution, for the High Court of Admiralty has, in time of war, always been the court which administered British prize law. The High Court of Admiralty had, in fact, from the time it became a legal tribunal, two distinct kinds of jurisdiction—prize and instance—the latter word covering what is popularly called Admiralty business, that is, disputes arising out of collisions, salvage services, and the like. The origins of the prize jurisdiction of the Admiralty Court were obscure until Mr. R. G. Marsden made some careful researches into the records of the court, the results of which are contained in two volumes of the publications of the Selden Society, and in two papers in the *English Historical Review*, in 1909 and 1910, which should be republished in separate form.

We must picture the Lord High Admiral in mediæval times, one who from his position became an arbiter in maritime disputes which included questions of prize. From the personal jurisdiction of this great official to the delegation of his judicial authority to a legal deputy is a step which, gradually becoming a common practice, links the present court with the prize jurisdiction of the Lord High Admiral in the fourteenth century. So that in the Prize Court now sitting in the Law Courts in the Strand we see one of those interesting British institutions which, even amid the changes of time, unite us to the mediæval age.

Several circumstances have caused the British Prize Court to lose the personal atmosphere which surrounded it in former days. For one thing, the private captor has disappeared. In the Napoleonic wars privateers covered the high seas, and the condemnation of their prizes—the proceeds of which went into the pockets of the owners

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and crews—occupied much of the time of the Prize Court. But the officers and crews of commissioned ships of war also obtained the cash result of their captures. The Declaration of Paris put an end to the privateer, and an order in Council of last August abolished prize money for the royal navy. The Crown, in other words, the Treasury, is therefore now alone interested in prize proceedings, though it may be mentioned that a regulated bounty is to be given at the end of the war to officers and men of the royal navy.

The ascendency of Great Britain at sea during the present war has had the effect of preventing German and Austrian vessels from sailing the seas, and the two ports of Germany, Hamburg and Bremen have been inaccessible to neutral shipping. The result has been that, except for a few days at the beginning of the war, there have been no maritime captures. The ships which have been brought before the Prize Court have almost all been seized in port, and these have not been condemned and sold, but an order has been made for their detention until the end of the war. This procedure is novel in the Prize Court, and is one which would somewhat have astonished Lord Stowell. Whether the order is made in pursuance of the Hague Convention No. 6 (1907) is doubtful, for it has not yet been judicially decided whether this convention is binding; but as the Prize Court has a general power to make any order it deems proper, it has not been necessary to settle the former interesting point. There are those who consider that the detention of enemy vessels might well be effected by administrative act, and certainly, as the primary object of the Prize Court is to condemn enemy property and to dispossess an enemy owner of it, there appears to be no practical object in bringing a suit in the Prize Court merely for an order for detention.

The cargoes which have been the subject of prize proceedings have also for the most part been seized in port, and in most cases in British ships. There has resulted this curious state of things, that, while enemy goods in neutral vessels are immune from capture, those in British vessels are liable to seizure. In regard to these goods some intricate and difficult points of commercial law have arisen. Modern forms of dealing, especially as concerns the advance of money on bills of lading and the practice of through bills of lading, have made the actual legal ownership of goods at the time of seizure a question of difficulty. These questions were unknown in former times, and the recent decisions on them relate rather to commercial than to prize law. In the latter field the preëminence of Lord Stowell's decisions as fundamental declarations of English prize law has been, perhaps, an outstanding feature of the work of the court.

If a practitioner from Doctors' Commons, one of the civil lawyers of the past, could revisit the Prize Court, he would be struck not by a change of law, but by a change of procedure. A new code of rules, which had been long in preparation, came into force at the beginning of the war; they have abolished many antiquated forms of procedure, especially that of taking evidence from a captured ship on "standing interrogatories." The procedure is simple and untechnical, for, after all, the object of a prize suit is in itself simple, and there is no reason why the methods by which a decision is obtained should be either involved or lengthy.

E. S. Roscoe.

Book Notes and Byways

MARTIN LUTHER AND ENGLAND.

An extremely rare book, found in the Bodleian, but not in the British Museum, is "M. Luthers Sermon on the Keys and of Absolution, on John xx. 21, 22, translated by R. Argentine. Ipswich. 1548." The name of the translator as here given is a pseudonym, the last word, "Argentine," meaning simply "of Strassburg," which in Latin is known as Argentina or Argentoratum. The problem is, then, to find an Englishman one of whose names begins with R, and who lived for some time at Strassburg. The first name that occurred to me was that of Friar Roy, Tyndale's helper and a translator of other Lutheran works into English. He lived long in Germany, and spent some time at Strassburg; but, as he disappears from sight in 1532, and as Thomas More relates that he fell a victim to the Portuguese inquisition in that year, the present translation could not have been by him unless it was a reprint of an earlier work now unknown. This is so improbable as to make further search desirable. I now think that the translator was Richard Hilles, an English Protestant clergyman who spent several years at Strassburg with Bucer. By contemporary letters he can be traced there in 1546 and from December 8, 1547, to August 22, 1548. As he set out for England on this date, nothing is more likely than that he carried with him a version of Luther's sermon, to be printed immediately on his arrival. By his friends he is often referred to by his first name only, and there is nothing strange in his taking the initial R rather than H in finding a nom de plume.

In the very same year Walter Lynne, a London printer, himself translated, published, and dedicated to the Princess Elizabeth another of Luther's works, namely:

A frutefull and godly Exposition and declaration of the kyngdom of Christ and of chrysten lybertye made upon the words of the Prophete Jeremye in the xviii chapter, with an exposycyon of the viii Psalme, intreating of the same mater by the famous clerke Doctor Martyn Luther, whereunto is annexed a Godly sermon of Doctor Urbanus Rhegius upon the ix Chappter of Mathews. . . . Translated out of the hyghe Almayne. Gwalter Lynne. London. 1548.

In the following year Lynne published another of Luther's writings under the title:

A briefe collection of all such textes of the scripture as do declare the most blessed and happie estate of them that be with sycknes. . . . Whereunto are added two fruitfull and comfortable sermons made by the famous clarke doctor Martin Luther. . . . G. Lynne. 1549.

No more English versions of the Reformer's works were printed during the reign of Edward VI, and only one during the reign of Mary. This was from Luther's *Vom Greuel der Stillmesse:*

A sermon of the great blasphemy agynst God whych the Papystes do use reading this Antechrystian Canon in theyr Mass.

No date, place, or name of printer is given. The British Museum catalogue places it in the year 1554, and the appropriateness of its subject to the reign of the Catholic queen is obvious. It may have been printed on the Continent, as was Tyndale's New Testament and many of his works. Even under the Protestant Edward, in 1550, an Oxford scholar, Francis Dryander, though of the reformed faith, went to Basel to get books printed.

An estimate of the influence of Luther's writings in England in the sixteenth century must note that they furnished the originals for the translation of the English Bible, for many hymns, and for the Thirty-nine Articles. It is a well-known fact that the first complete English Bible (1535) frankly stated on its title-page that it was "faithfully translated out of Douche and Latyn," the Dutch being, of course, Luther's German. Comparison of the texts amply bears out the fact that both Tyndale and Coverdale leaned very heavily on the Reformer. On the other hand, the assertion that Tyndale was at Wittenberg and knew Luther personally, though made by his contemporaries Edward Lee, Thomas More, and Cochlæus, and repeated by Froude, Demaus, Momfret, Gairdner, and many others, is, in my judgment, certainly false. Not only is there no mention of this visit in the records of the University of Wittenberg, or in the voluminous correspondence of Luther, or Melanchthon, or Jonas, or Bugenhagen, or any other resident of the city, not only is there no mention of ever seeing Luther in all Tyndale's writings, but we have his own denial: "when he [More] saith Tyndale was confederate with Luther, that is not the truth."

Some time before 1539 (the date is given by a list of prohibited books drawn up in that year) Miles Coverdale published "Ghostly Psalms and Spiritual Songs, drawn out of the holy Scripture." Mr. Herford has already noticed that some of these hymns were also drawn from Luther. Having made a more thorough study of the subject, I have noted the following parallels:

GERMAN: ERLANGEN EDITION OF LUTHER'S WORKS, VOL. 56.	ENGLISH: REMAINS OF MYLES COVERDALE, 1846.
Nun freut euch, p. 309.	Be glad now, p. 550.
Psalm xii, p. 311.	Do., p. 567.
Psalm xiv, p. 312.	Do., p. 581.
Psalm cxxx (shorter form), p. 313.	Do., p. 577.
Psalm lxvii, p. 318.	Do., p. 580.
Lobgesang auf dem Osterfest, p. 319.	Easter Song, p. 563.
Ostergesang, p. 321.	Another Easter Song, p 563.
Ten Commandments, p. 322.	Do., p. 544.
Another Ten Commandments, p. 324.	Do., p. 545.
Komm Heiliger Geist, p. 330.	Come Holy Spirite, p. 542.
Lobgesang Simeons, p. 331.	Nunc Dimittis, p. 566.
Glaube, p. 333.	Creed, p. 546.
Psalm cxxviii, p. 335.	Do., p. 573.
Psalm cxxiv, p. 336.	Do., p. 571.
Lobgesang, p. 337.	Of the Holy Ghost, p. 566.
Media vita, p. 338.	Media vita, p. 554.
Ein Feste Burg, p. 343.	Deus refugium, p. 569.

For the sake of comparison the first verse of the last-mentioned poem may be given:

Our God is a defence and toure,
A good armoure and good weapen,
He hath been ever our helpe and sucoure

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In all the troubles that we have been in.
Therefore wyl we never drede
For any wondrous dede
By water or by londe
In hilles or the see sonde
Our God hath them all in his honde.

Ain feste burg ist unser Gott,
ain gutte wör un waffen,
Er hilfft uns frey aus aller not,
Die uns yetzt hat betroffen.
Der alt böse feynd,
Mitt ernst ers yetzt meint,
gross macht un vil list
sein grausam rüstung ist,
auff erd ist nicht seins gleichen.

Though the wording of the two is not very close, the identity of the metre, save in the rhyme of the last line, makes it certain that Coverdale used the famous German hymn.

It is not generally known, and would hardly be agreeable for the "Catholic" party in the Episcopal Church to learn, that Luther had a finger in the Thirty-nine Articles. Such, however, is the case. When Henry VIII's ambassadors, Foxe, Bishop of Hereford, and Nicholas Heath, visited Wittenberg in 1536, they brought back with them a set of seventeen articles, drafted by Melanchthon and approved by Luther, largely founded on the Augsburg Confession. Two years later, at a conference of the German ambassadors, Boineburg and Myconius, with English divines in London, these were digested into thirteen articles, which became the basis of the Forty-two Articles of Edward VI, and thus of the Thirty-nine Articles of Elizabeth. (*Cf.* G. Mentz: *Die Wittenberger Artikel von 1536.* Leipzig. 1905.) PRESERVED SMITH.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Correspondence

"POUR LE FRONT."

MONSIEUR LE DIRECTEUR: Vous avez bien voulu attirer l'attention de vos lecteurs vers l'œuvre que la comtesse Joachim Murat a appelée "Pour le Front." Je vous en remercie bien sincèrement, car je connais cette œuvre qui est des mieux conçues et des mieux dirigées, et je puis vous assurer qu'elle rend de grands services. Grâce à elle, les maux de la guerre sont adoucis à l'entrée d'un hiver rigoureux, et beaucoup de vies humaines lui doivent leur conservation. C'est une heureuse pensée qu'a eue la comtesse Murat d'envoyer directement au front, par les moyens les plus rapides, les nombreux et précieux objets qu'elle doit à la libéralité des souscripteurs et qu'elle a hâte de faire parvenir à leur véritable addresse, qui est celle des malades et des blessés. Et que de maladies elle prévient!

Je vous remercie donc de la publicité que vous avez donnée à cette œuvre éminemment bienfaisante: et ce qui augmente ma reconnaissance est que je crois voir dans votre initiative une marque de bienveillance dont je suis très touché. Notre cause se dégage maintenant en toute clarté des calomnies dont elle a été l'objet. La France n'a pas voulu la guerre; elle n'a rien négligé de ce qui pouvait l'empêcher et lorsque enfin elle a dû la subir puisqu'on la lui avait declarée, elle l'a faite conformément aux règles du droit des gens, humainement et loyalement. On a osé l'accuser d'avoir voulu et préparé la violation de la neutralité belge, alors qu'elle n'avait même pas fortifié sa frontière commune avec la Belgique, la voyant assez défendue par la sainteté des traités. Si je proteste contre cette allégation au milieu de tant d'autres également fausses, c'est que nous y avons été, en France, particulièrement sensibles, parcequ'en nous attribuant une pensée criminelle, elle porte atteinte à notre honneur. Mais je n'insiste pas et je m'excuserais même de vous avoir exprimé autre chose que ma gratitude, si je ne tenais à dire qu'en faisant appel à votre sympathie, nous avons la conscience d'en être restés dignes.

Les souscriptions pour l'œuvre du front peuvent être envoyées directement à la comtesse Joachim Murat, 41 rue St. Dominique, Paris, ou à l'ambassade de France à Washington. FRANCIS CHARMES,

Directeur, *Revue des Deux Mondes.*

Paris, Décembre 4.

[The article on the admirable work of Countess Murat which is referred to by M. Charmes has not actually appeared in the *Nation,* M. Charmes having formed his impression from a conversation with one of our Paris correspondents who had in mind the possibility of such an article at some future date. We are glad, however, to commend this especial sort of relief work, which consists of sending blankets and warm clothing directly to the front for the benefit of wounded soldiers who, otherwise, would be exposed while being conveyed to field hospitals and trains.—ED. THE NATION.]

A SERIOUS TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The American Association for International Conciliation has issued as No. 83 of its bulletins the "Official Documents Bearing Upon the European War." In it the German White Book still appears, I am sorry to say, in the defective translation originally published by the New York *Times,* which in many places is entirely inadequate.

In one instance, however, an evident attempt of the new publication at correcting an omission of the old one has made bad matters worse and led to a situation that might easily cause serious misunderstanding. The communication of the Imperial Chancellor to the Confederated Governments of Germany which appears on p. 113 of the bulletin is there dated July 23, 1914, whereas in the original publication of the *Times* it was left undated. There are accessible to me at the time of this writing three issues of the German White Book that have been published in Germany—the original document, as presented to the German Diet on August 4; a subsequent publication through the regular book trade, brought out by the Nordische Verlagsanstalt; and an English translation, vastly superior to the one of the New York *Times,* which was issued in Berlin by the publishing house of Liebheit & Thiesen. In every one of them the document in question is plainly dated "Berlin, July 28, 1914."

Annoying as this error is, it would hardly justify a notice in the columns of the *Nation* under ordinary circumstances. There is evident danger, however, that it lends color to a recent analysis of the English and German White Papers that has been widely read and is accepted by many as trustworthy in its findings. I refer to an article by the former Assistant Attorney-General, James M. Beck, which appeared in the New York *Times* of October 25, prominently featured as "The Case of the Double Alliance versus the Triple Entente in the Supreme Court of Civilization." It is a strictly partisan review of the official documents thus far published, in which the advocate of the one side attempts to play the part of judge and jury, with the result inevitable in such a case. But even as an advocate Mr. Beck has laid himself open to serious criticism, and one of his untenable contentions concerns the date of the document here referred to. Mr. Beck makes much of the fact that of all the documents printed in the German White Book just this one appears undated. From certain indications he infers that one should assume it to have been prepared on either the 23d or 24th of July. To be sure, it makes mention of events that did not happen until the 25th, but that renders it only the more suspicious to Mr. Beck. At any rate, to his mind, this double-tongued document is plain proof that Germany was plotting war when Servia had not yet even made answer to the Austrian demands. This is the ominous significance of the suppressed date. On it hinges in large part an invidious charge against the German Government. As a matter of fact, Mr. Beck did not even take the trouble of consulting the official publication of the accused Government in its original form. A mere glance would have convinced him that the date in question has not been withheld, and that it is as late as July 28, that is, three days after the arrival of the Servian reply in Vienna, and hence at a time when the European horizon had indeed assumed for Germany a most threatening aspect. Had Mr. Beck taken this trouble, he could easily have avoided the uncomfortable position in which he now finds himself of basing a most serious accusation on a typographical error in the translation of the New York *Times.*

This is the reason why I feel justified in calling attention to the erroneous date in the International Conciliation bulletin. It is a deplorable coincidence. If left unexplained, it might induce even thoughtful students of the questions involved to give credence to the charges of Mr. Beck against the trustworthiness of the data presented in the German White Book. A. R. HOHLFELD.

Madison, Wis., November 8.

NEUTRALITY AS AN OPPORTUNITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Is it too late to rescue public opinion in the United States from the wave of partisanship which is threatening to submerge it? Is it not evident that the acrimonious speech and militant suggestions which are now so conspicuous may, if unchecked, forfeit for this country its opportunity to be the instrument of a magnanimous peace?

All reasonable observers must indignantly protest against the horrors of war—the devastation of towns, the brutality of troops, the invasion of neutral territory; but to discriminate absolutely between the contending forces as between those of civilization and barbarism, or to fix complete culpability on one nation or on one man, is to simplify the case beyond recognition. The origins of the tragedy lie much deeper than any immediate provocation. It is not so much an insanity which has seized on one nation as a Nemesis which has overtaken

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all. All alike have been for a half century involved in negotiations so tortuous, and preparations so incriminating, that they could have no other issue than this apparently uninterpretable war. The determination of Germany to dominate the land was matched by the determination of Great Britain to dominate the sea. The increasing German budget was an answer to the increasing term of service in France. Peace between Russia and Austria has long hung on the slender thread of a Balkan adjustment. In short, the universally accepted policy of a Balance of Power has involved an equilibrium so unstable that the most dexterous manipulations of diplomacy could not long postpone a crash. Not one of the nations concerned believes itself an aggressor. The overwhelming pathos of the letters which one receives from Europe is in the insistence by Germans, Frenchmen, and Englishmen alike that war was forced upon them and that they are fighting for national existence. The calamity, in other words, was inevitable. The secret barterings of diplomatists and the maintenance of peace by gigantic preparations for war have reached their only possible end.

In this state of European chaos the opportunity of this country is plain. Relief of distress we may freely and lavishly provide. Military coöperation is neither practicable nor desired. The English press has repeatedly pointed out that Great Britain does not need our ships and that we have no army. Reckless invective at such a time is mere vocal exercise. One way of service, and one only, is for the present open to us if we really want to help. We can keep our heads above the wave of passion; we can refrain from a credulity which believes the impossible; we can refuse all entanglements and alliances and maintain our fortunate tradition of diplomatic publicity and candor; and by these measures of self-restraint we can be ready, when the time arrives—God grant it may be soon!—to offer a judicial and unprejudiced tribunal for the great adjudication which must come. The appeal of President Wilson for a strict observance of neutrality is not merely for the sake of national self-interest, but quite as much for the sake of international usefulness. To hold our tongues just now, when the facts reach us with such distortion and exaggeration, may be to hold in our hands before long the fate of the world.

In a letter of Jefferson, written to Monroe in 1823, he says: "I have ever deemed it fundamental for the United States never to take active part in the quarrels of Europe. Their political interests are entirely distinct from ours. Their mutual jealousies, their balance of power, their complicated alliances, their forms and principles of government, are all foreign to us. They are nations of eternal war. All their energies are expended in the destruction of the labor, property, and lives of their people. On our part, never had a people so favorable a chance of trying the opposite system, of peace and fraternity with mankind, and the direction of all our means and faculties to the purposes of improvement instead of destruction." That which was in Jefferson political sagacity has now become moral obligation. Never had a people, in his words, "so favorable a chance of trying a system of peace and fraternity with mankind"; but never was a people more tempted to throw that chance away.

FRANCIS G. PEABODY.

Cambridge, Mass., November 30.

FRENCH BOMBS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In the *Nation* (November 12, p. 573) I read a statement to the effect that French aviators bombarded some Rhine cities and dropped missiles upon Nürnberg. Allow me to state emphatically that there is not a word of truth in that report, which was "made in Germany" and used by Herr von Schoen as a pretext for the futile and wicked declaration of war on France on August 3. The French Government immediately denied the German Ambassador's assertion and, in an official document, bestowed upon it the qualification it deserves: "une misérable invention."

SALOMON REINACH.

Paris, November 26.

GEN. SCOTT AS CHIEF OF STAFF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It is an interesting coincidence that Gen. Hugh Lenox Scott, who has just succeeded Gen. Wotherspoon as Chief of Staff of the United States army, was his successor also, a generation ago, in a detail which brought both of them into country-wide notice. They were subalterns then, and ambitious for billets of the kind that push young men ahead in the military world; but their superiors preferred to set them at the seemingly thankless task of taking care of a band of Indian captives. Geronimo and his Apache following had surrendered after leading the troops a tedious chase through a pathless mountain wildness in the Southwest, and the Government sent them first to Florida and later to Alabama, where they were confined for a considerable period at Mount Vernon barracks, in the custody of Lieutenant Wotherspoon. The latter was glad enough when Lieutenant Scott arrived with orders to relieve him of his burden. Scott found the prisoners pretty thoroughly discouraged as a result of their sojourn in a climate to which they were entirely unaccustomed, and which was threatening to weaken their bodies as it had already wilted their spirits. Old Chihuahua voiced their common discontent in characteristic aboriginal fashion. "We do not wish to live here," said he. "We are shut up in a little place like this"—making signs with his hands to indicate a small rectangle, the shape of the tract on which the barracks were planted. "All around us is nothing but sand," turning his palms down and swinging them slowly around to direct attention to the soil. "The trees"—waving one hand about him to indicate the pine forest—"are so close together that you cannot look away at anything, and so thick"—pointing upward—"that you cannot see the sun. And when you sit down to rest," sighing wearily, "something bites you!"

Under Scott's superintendence they were soon moved to Fort Sill, in the old Indian Territory, where he devoted himself for several years to not only their care, but their instruction in the arts of peace. He taught them how to build the simple cottages in which they were to live, how to farm and garden, how to bale and sell their hay and peddle their vegetables among the housekeepers at the fort, and how to sink and curb good wells. As a precaution, he early took pains to prove to them the instantaneous operation of the telegraph in conveying messages hundreds of miles, incidentally suggesting the folly of any one's attempting to run away when it would be so easy to intercept a fugitive by a warning flashed to the authorities all over the surrounding country; and the effectiveness of this hint was shown by the fact that, although they were allowed now and then to go in parties to some distant point to gather a kind of wild beans of which they were fond, they never abused the privilege.

Far from shelving him professionally, this Fort Sill episode made Scott most favorably known throughout the country, and doubtless played no insignificant part in advancing his subsequent career. He will have scant time, of course, for outside activities while holding his present important post; but, after he has finished his term and retired, it is hoped that he will make some very valuable contributions to the store of American anthropological literature. While he was superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point, he used to advise every cadet to select some subject of research in which to interest himself by way of mental recreation, so that, when the time came to lay off the harness of war, life would not lose its charm or come to a full stop. The practical character of this counsel we shall presently see illustrated, without doubt, in the case of its author.

FRANCIS E. LEUPP.

Washington, D. C., December 8.

A REQUEST FOR LETTERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I am preparing what I hope to make an exhaustive treatment of Joseph Ritson's life and work. If any of your readers have knowledge of unpublished letters to or from Ritson, or of any Ritson manuscript whatever, I should esteem it a great favor if they would communicate with me.

HENRY A. BURD.

University of Illinois, Urbana, December 1.

SUGGESTIBLE DISEASES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Our neighborhood is divided in opinion. Some of us, who have never looked up and just glimpsed Oregon or California vanishing into glimmering blue distance on the railway track of Progress, consider ourselves Progressive, and feel a great pride in belonging to a community that adopts and puts into practice every new suggestion. Others, of a lesser faith, phrase it differently, and say that we catch every new disease that comes along, and are ruining our health by taking too many remedies. One of these skeptics complains to me, regretfully and indignantly, that life is only a series of little eruptions, and that we spend so much of our energy in starting little things that we have none left for the doing of anything big.

I have come to be of the latter opinion. Our little community, to all outward appearance enjoying fairly good health, is really susceptible in the extreme to communicable diseases. Perhaps it would be more accurate to call them suggestible diseases. When anything becomes epidemic, we are sure to take it, whether we need it or not; but, even if the thing is not epidemic, we are likely to take it if we think of it or hear it mentioned.

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Our thoroughfares are wide and free, every one has a lawn, there are abundant vacant lots and parks, we have a couple of miles of lake shore, and the country is only a few paces distant; but we have had the playground disease, and are still employing salaried experts to drive our children to diversion. We caught this from the nearest big city, where the children were really in need. Our richest men enjoy incomes of only a few thousand a year, and earn them, but we have not escaped the abuse-the-rich disease. That, too, we caught from a big city, where there were a few rich scoundrels and a few rich idiots, and a greater number of men of real conscience who could not keep the means of their enrichment from working occasional harm. Our poorest people have always felt able to fail their engagements and to refuse jobs that interefere with movie hours, and most of them have expensive habits and victrolas, but we nevertheless had a run of the pity-God's-patient-poor disease, which spread to us, presumably, from some big centre of either exceeding humility or exceeding tyranny.

We are a fairly religious community, but we had to succumb to a sharp, though harmless, attack of the recent go-to-church-next-Sunday indigestion that swept the country. We are still undergoing tango and snappy-music-in-church infections, with hopes that they will not become chronic. We are a college town, with professors from near and far lecturing gratis to empty seats, and with a half-dozen or more "brainy" pastors preaching and teaching Sundays and week days, but we are suffering acutely from the bring-knowledge-to-the-people inflammation, and are bordering on melancholia from the failure to get the man-in-the-street's consent to be enlightened. No one is more social than we are; we can scarcely get an evening at home; yet we have had the social-centre carbuncle. Of course, we have the intermittent educational-fad fever, accompanied by vocational pustules, and, of course, we have had the white-slave rash. Just now we are suffering from a very irritating attack of investigational itch. We have had Tag-days and Rag-days, and Mothers' Days and Fathers' Days, and Clean-up Days. We have had the Boy Scout movement and the Big Sister movement. We have had all the movements, and have all had the movements. The standard road to distinction and a quiet conscience in our little town has been the inauguration or the patronage of a movement of some kind. We should be universally distinguished and universally beatified, and our town a Saints' Rest in Glory, if it only were not that our movements are not lasting. They are rapid movements, and as they reach nowhere, they are naturally soon over. This is no way either to distinction or to eternal repose.

What ails us? We need not to be that way. It must be the nerves, as people say when there is nothing else to say. No one has ever really been able to produce evidence of any serious organic trouble in our community. Our affairs are not large, our citizens are fairly decent and industrious, and our officials fairly expert and conscientious. Up to a few years ago, we supposed we were enjoying pretty good health.

The probabilities are that we should have gone on indefinitely in our good health and happiness if we had not lost our ignorant and comfortable state of mind. We were simply in the case of the really healthy person who hears and reads a great deal about symptoms and remedies, and soon begins to magnify the slight ills to which his own and all flesh is heir, and fancies he needs medicine. We were really not ailing to speak of. We were not even nervous and run down, but we were told again and again of bad cases and wonderful cures, and began to feel the symptoms we had heard so much about. The first thing we knew, we were trying patent medicines—some at the recommendation of well-meaning local quacks who had acquired a taste for sociologizing, and some at the recommendation of itinerant sociologizing quacks who were not so unprofessional and not so innocent. We tried one patent medicine, and the momentary exhilaration of its more or less generous percentage of stimulant in the form of prospective results, aided no little by the judiciously mixed-in bitterness of unpleasant personal effort, made us feel better. Then both stimulant and bitterness began to lose force, through custom, and, of course, we tried another kind. We tried several. We tried all we could find. The promise of salvation shone forth from every patent-medicine bottle in the sociologizer's carpet-bag. We got the habit, and now we are depleted. We have lost the power of resistance. We listen now to every quack. The only bad citizen now is the one who will not consent to the opening of new bottles. We are medicine-mad, and becoming diseased in earnest.

We needed no medicine in the first place. Even when we began to think we were ill there was really nothing the matter more than is natural to any healthy person. Christian Science would have found us a perfectly easy case. Even now, many of us think that the most that we and other innocent towns of our size need is an old-line practitioner with a case of the standard drugs that have served for centuries. The name of the old-line practitioner is Common Sense.

GRANT SHOWERMAN.

Madison, Wis., November 28.

MISS AGNES IRWIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The death of Miss Agnes Irwin on December 5 in Philadelphia, in her seventy-third year, has removed from her large circle of friends a noted and beloved personality. A great-great-granddaughter of Benjamin Franklin, she inherited her full share of his wit and wisdom, joining to these her womanly traits, the sincerity and integrity of her strong character, and, above all, the attributes of a most loyal and loving heart.

The granddaughter of George Dallas, Vice-President under President Polk and Minister to England, a great-niece of Col. Dallas Bache, the distinguished Superintendent of the United States Coast Survey, with the men of her large family connection holding important positions in the United States Government and in the army and navy, she had, from her youth up, an unusually wide social experience, a certain breadth of view as well, confirmed by her residence in Washington, New York, and Philadelphia.

In her early life it became necessary for her to join the Honorable Order of Self-Supporting Women. She opened a school for girls in Philadelphia, and, ably assisted by her sister, Miss Sophia Dallas Irwin, she conducted it so successfully that to-day the school stands in the foremost ranks, and is filled to overflowing with pupils, many of them the grandchildren of the original pupils. For thirty years she performed the arduous exacting duties of principal of a large school, giving the young lives committed to her care an uplifting and ennobling influence, her friendship following them into their maturer years.

Miss Irwin was a cultivated woman in the highest sense. She had a remarkable memory; her reading was extensive and varied; her mind was stored with the best in classic and modern literature. Her frequent visits to England and Europe gave her an appreciative knowledge of art and architecture. She was a delightful companion, and was sought and prized in every society. She was endowed with health, vigor, and a noble presence. Her wit was proverbial; but her enjoyment of another's wit was equally apparent. It was well said of her that she had an extraordinary power of self-effacement; that she listened quite as well as she talked; that her opinions had to be sought. By nature she was conservative, but she was most open-minded, and ready to listen to views that were opposed to her own. She was a devout member of the Episcopal Church, and will be missed in its communion.

In 1904, when Radcliffe, the woman's college of Harvard University, was incorporated, Miss Irwin was invited, from among the many distinguished women then engaged in educational work in the United States, to accept the position of the executive officer of the college. At that date the faculty of Harvard looked askance at the inauguration of a woman's college at Cambridge, and it required Miss Irwin's able management, her good sense and tact, to steer the course of the College through those opening years, and to win for Radcliffe the confidence and support of the University.

She served as dean of Radcliffe for fifteen years, receiving during that period the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and a degree from the University of St. Andrew's in Scotland. Before resigning, in 1909, she raised, with Mr. Carnegie's help, a fund for the endowment of the Radcliffe College Library.

For the past three years she has been president of the Head Mistresses' Association of Private Schools, representing some fifty schools for girls in this country. "No one knows the help and inspiration she has been to us teachers," said one of the members recently.

Deeply affected by the present European war, her mind dwelt upon the suffering Belgians, and how best to help them. "Imagine," she said, "what it would be, suddenly and for no fault of one's own, to find one's self homeless and destitute." Within the past month she joined a committee in Philadelphia, assisting Madame Vandervelde in raising a large sum of money for the Belgians.

How far and how intimately Miss Irwin's personal influence has been felt cannot be estimated. Of those with whom she came in contact, whom has she not helped, succored, divined? Who can measure the depth of her sympathy, the loyalty of her friendship, the wisdom of her counsels? Hers was a great personality, and her modesty an essential part of it.

G. S.

New York, December 3.

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Literature

BOOKS ON CALIFORNIA.

The Tourist's California. By Ruth Kedzie Wood. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co. $1.25 net.

California, Romantic and Beautiful. By George Wharton James. Boston: The Page Co. $3.50 net.

California, the Land of the Sun. By Sutton Palmer and Mary Austin. New York: The Macmillan Co. $4.

California, Romantic and Resourceful. By John F. Davis. San Francisco: A. M. Robertson. $1.25.

Spanish and Indian Place Names of California. By Nellie van de Grift Sanchez. San Francisco: A. M. Robertson. $2 net.

With the Flowers and Trees in California. By Charles Francis Saunders. New York: McBride, Nast & Co. $2.50 net.

California: An Intimate History. By Gertrude Atherton. New York: Harper & Bros. $2 net.

California is certainly the luckiest and most resourceful country in the world. Gold, grain, fruit, wine, petroleum, and tourists have successively and continuously enriched it, and the future is even brighter than the past. The tourist industry, in particular, is sure to grow apace enormously. The Panama Exposition in San Francisco will stimulate it greatly, and it is likely that, while the nations at war will not be able to participate very actively, this loss will be compensated for by the consideration that the great stream of tourists, finding Europe closed, will turn to the West to see their own country. This situation explains the flood of books just now being added to the big library on California previously published. The subject is inexhaustible; each one of the seven volumes under consideration to-day presents new points of view and is worth reading.

Apart from Baedeker, there is no book which gives so much useful information on California for travellers as the first one on our list. It describes the various routes to that region, as well as the routes from place to place within the State, with the cost by rail, boat, or stage, and estimates of hotel expenses, etc. "Considering its longitudinal extent, California is kinder to the automobilist than any State in the Union." It will soon be possible to motor from the Mexican to the Canadian border and thence from the Pacific to the Atlantic. The time of the year, so far as California is concerned, makes no great difference. There are nearly as many climates as there are counties, and of counties there are fifty-eight, so the tourist can have what he likes. The principal towns and regions most favored by tourists are adequately described in this guide, and there is much incidental information about marvellous fruits, seven-pound radishes, and that sort of thing. San Francisco, made over new, has eight hundred restaurants, the local flavors of some of which are discussed. Bret Harte's country is not overlooked, nor does the author forget to describe the grounds of the Panama Exposition.

It is not merely as a lure that so many books about California have the word Romantic in their title. There is romance a-plenty in the past of the State, and romance in many of its aspects to-day, allied with rare beauty and variety. This romance and beauty form the special subject of Mr. James's volume, the abundant and excellent illustrations in which (some in color), combined with the persuasive text, make it a potent tract for the region and an entertaining one. The book is the fifth in the See America First series published by the Page Company (the others being "Old Panama and Castillo Del Oro," "Three Wonderlands of the American West," "Houseboating on a Colonial Waterway," "Panama and the Canal To-day"), and its author is already favorably known for half-a-dozen other books on the Southwest. Where his own extensive experience does not seem to him sufficient, he quotes from famous writers, including some interesting accounts of mountain ascents by Muir and others. He also cites a good deal of poetry, all of it by Californians inspired by their surroundings. The reader is taken along the coast, to the cities, up and down mountain trails, through the deserts, the valleys, the orchards—wherever there is romance or beauty—generally both. Among the pictures there are photographs of fruits and fish which prove that not all "California stories" of bigness are exaggerations. Mr. James does his best to persuade his readers that there should be many more to enjoy the romance and beauty of California, not only as tourists, but permanently, as settlers. He calls attention to the fact that the British Isles, with an area smaller than California, support over eighteen times its population.

Another most abundantly and superbly illustrated book on the same State is the joint production of Sutton Palmer and Mary Austin. How any one can look at these pictures—thirty-two of them, all colored—pictures of the Yosemite, Lake Tahoe, Tamalpais, eucalyptus groves, Santa Barbara Mission, Santa Cruz Mountains, Shasta, Castle Crag, and so on, some of them, like that of Redlands, showing the contrast of flowers and ripe oranges below with snow on near-by ranges, which is so delightfully characteristic of Southern California—without wanting to rush to the nearest railway ticket office, is beyond comprehension. Sutton Palmer is responsible for these pictures, which are more beautiful and illuminating than photographs, while the text, by Mary Austin, is divided into nine chapters, the titles of which convey a suggestion of their content and spirit: The Sparrow Hawk's Own, Mothering Mountain, The Coasts of Adventure, The Port of Monterey, Old Spanish Gardens, The Land of the Little Duck, The Twin Valleys, The High Sierras, and The Sage Brush Country.

No book on California does the subject justice unless it has a chapter on its trees and flowers, and most of them have one. Charles Francis Saunders devotes a whole book to them. It is not a scientific treatise, nor does it attempt to cover the subject systematically. What the author does is to chat about the plants—learnedly sometimes, for he has delved in old Spanish records—but always entertainingly. Here the tourist who is looking forward to a trip will find more miscellaneous facts than elsewhere about the trees, shrubs, and flowering plants that daze and delight every one. Many of them are immigrants, for the Californians delight in importing exotic wayside trees and plants from all parts of the world, as if their own State were not one of the richest of them all. Mr. Saunders has reason to chide the Californians themselves for not knowing—though they are so much given to boasting—what an important part their country has played in beautifying the gardens of Europe. Not only are they full of California wild flowers, but "before California was discovered gardens were almost deficient in one of their present-day strong points—that is, annuals." Abundant pictures further enhance the charm and value of this book, on which it would be a pleasure to dwell longer if space permitted.

Most tourists are glad to know something about the romance and the historic incidents suggested by the place-names of California, so many of which are Spanish or Indian. Why are the big trees called sequoias? Why was the second city of the State—some now claim for it first place—called Los Angeles? Whence came the name California? These and hundreds of similar questions are answered by Nellie van de Grift Sanchez, alphabetically and correctly, wherever accurate information was obtainable through patient research, supplemented by information from John Muir and several experts in the universities of the State. Very often the missionaries chose the names still in use; yet "in many cases the choice of the soldiers has outlived that of the fathers." Unlike other books of reference, this one can be read through with pleasure from beginning to end. Under La Brea interesting information is given concerning the asphaltum beds near Los Angeles, which constituted a "death-trap" in the Tertiary Age, and from which nearly a million specimens of animals, including camels and elephants, have been taken.

"California, Romantic and Beautiful," by John E. Davis, is a misnomer. It is not a treatise on the romance or the resources of the State at all, but simply a plea of sixty pages for the collection, preservation, and diffusion of information relating to Pacific Coast history, followed by the Love Story of Concha Argüello, and a poem by Bret Harte. Mr. Davis calls attention to the extraordinary luck of the great Bancroft library of invaluable manuscripts and books in thrice escaping by the narrowest margin destruction by fire. Yet, notwithstanding this collection, and a travelling fellow-

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ship for further research recently established, the author thinks that still more should be done before it is too late, and he calls for subscriptions to further this end.

The history of California is, like the State itself, so romantic that it requires no novelist to make it readable. It is needless to say that, nevertheless, Gertrude Atherton's "intimate history" is more entertaining than most other volumes on its subject, although she does not romance in the least, but sticks to the facts established by other historians. No original research will be found here, but there is the sure touch resulting from being a native of the State and knowing it thoroughly in all its aspects. There is much that appeals to the imagination. San Francisco, the most interesting city in the Union, is most vividly portrayed; there is a graphic chapter on gold and the incredible barbarisms of mining life; and the very names of some of the other chapters suggest the brilliant use the author has made of them: The War, The Terrible Seventies, The Chinese Must Go, Last Phases. One of these last phases is woman suffrage, which, as she notes, was won with the country vote by "the women who had taken motors and visited practically every farmer and hamlet in the State."

CURRENT FICTION.

The Demi-Gods. By James Stephens. New York: The Macmillan Co.

Patsy MacCann was a travelling tinker, a tramp, and a thief; and after this concession to the dictates of truth and candor, it may be added, without offence, that he was a critic—as it might be, a book reviewer. In this capacity he observes: "A good story has to be about ordinary things, but there isn't anybody who could tell what your story was about." If the present tale is not a good one, judged by Patsy's canon, it possesses, none the less, many of the characteristics that made the charm of "The Crock of Gold." It relates the wanderings of MacCann and his daughter Mary, with three angels for steady company, and the occasional companionship of Eileen Ni Cooley, an undesirable, Billy the Music, and a sort of visiting angel, Cuchulain, in somewhat patronizing attendance upon Brien O'Brien. Brien dies twice in these pages, spending the interval in mischief of various kinds and the pursuit of his lost three-penny piece. It might be supposed that Patsy and the angels would make an oddly assorted party. But no. "The angels were strangely like Patsy MacCann. Their ideas of right and wrong almost entirely coincided with his. They had no property, and so they had no prejudices." Indeed, the proposition that immediately follows seems fairly to afford common standing ground for angels and larcenous tinkers:

> Civilization, having built itself at hazard upon the Rights of Property, has sought on many occasions to unbuild itself again in sheer desperation of any advance, but from the great Ethic of Possession there never has been any escape, and there never will be, until the solidarity of man has been really created, and until each man ceases to see the wolf in his neighbor.

So Archangel, Seraph, and Cherub walk the pleasant Irish countryside for a space, ever and anon elucidating the mysteries of Cosmos by means of stories—a method as old as the world. And the patient ass, friend and servant of the company, listens appreciatively, and even, in the end, delivers itself of five little stories—though how and to whom does not appear. At last the time comes for the angels to "go away"; and Finaun, the archangel, and Caeltia, the seraph, resume their shining garments and depart. But not so Art, the cherub, who, remembering Mary MacCann, rends his beautiful raiment and remains. And so we emerge from the atmosphere of mysticism and rub our eyes as we watch Art and his love pacing down the narrow track, his great arm laid about her shoulder.

Pierre Vinton. By Edward C. Venable. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

Happy are the story-tellers who can adjust themselves to changed conditions. Is romance dead, just because stalwart youth and tender maiden no longer mate in the old blushing Victorian fashion and live happy ever after—even supposing that they don't? Not a bit of it. Shall the field of romance be narrowed because divorces multiply and Reno flourishes? Never. Rather out of the legal separation of two loving hearts will we build up romance anew, and where before was but one wedding, through the beneficent institution of divorce we will make two to grow. This is what Mr. Venable does in "Pierre Vinton: The Adventures of a Superfluous Husband," and it must be said that he does it uncommonly well. How Pierre allowed himself to be divorced, not wanting to in the least, but feeling that it was only the gentlemanly thing to do, as his charming young wife, to whom he had never refused anything, appeared to desire it, is exceedingly well told. The subsequent wooing of the pair, who would never have been sundered if they had duly observed the exhortations of the gentleman who married them, may almost be described as an idyll of divorce. The compromising situation in which they find themselves at the end, and which calls from a mutual friend the warning telegram, "Pour l'amour de Mike, soyez raisonnable," is quite delightful. Mr. Venable has a light touch, and his pages are illuminated with flashes of quiet humor.

Arcadian Adventures with the Idle Rich. By Stephen Leacock. New York: John Lane Co.

In the present volume, not the least of Mr. Leacock's happy fancies is his selection of a title which exactly expresses his theme. Each of the eight sketches included in the volume is complete in itself, but they are loosely connected by the locality of "Plutoria Avenue," and the recurrence in them of various personages who inhabit that thoroughfare. Some of these characters are deliciously conceived, with just the touch of exaggeration that is required for satire, but without the distortion that turns the picture into caricature. Dr. Boomer, for instance, the president of the university, is a familiar type, remote as the poles from the cloistered calm that one associates historically with the academic life, a hustling, business-like personage, ever ready with an oration, and keeping a weather-eye always open for benefactions from the wealthy. There is not a little verity in this description of the president's tactics: "Indeed, it was part of Dr. Boomer's method to get himself endowed first with premises too big for the apparatus, and then by appealing to public spirit to call for enough apparatus to more than fill the premises, by means of which system industrial science at Plutoria University advanced with increasing and gigantic strides." Not less to the point is the exposition of certain modern ideals of the function of a university: "It [the university] offered such a vast variety of themes, topics, and subjects to the students, that there was nothing that a student was compelled to learn, while from its own presses in its own press-building it sent out a shower of bulletins and monographs like driven snow from a rotary plough." And this, as a sly dig at "vocational training," is quite delicious: "A foreign visitor once said that the students looked like plumbers, and President Boomer was so proud of it that he put the phrase in his next commencement address; and from there the newspapers got it, and the Associated Press took it up and sent it all over the United States with the heading, 'Have Appearance of Plumbers; Plutoria University Congratulated on Character of Students,' and it was a proud day indeed for the heads of the industrial science faculty."

Yourself and the Neighbors. By Seumas MacManus. New York: The Devin-Adair Co.

Only an Irishman could have written this book, and perhaps only an Irishman can fully appreciate it. But there is pleasure in it for any lover of simple and unspoiled human nature. It is a series of sketches, lovingly and minutely detailed, of peasant life in Donegal. The style is that of intimate reminiscence, sometimes a trifle too garrulous, at least for the reader who has not the right store of memories to draw upon. Nearly all the narrative is in the second person; and this too becomes tiresome if "yourself" is in the least bit of a hurry. But if you are content to read leisurely, you can follow with much quiet enjoyment "Yourself and Herself" through school-days, courting days, and married life to contented old age. You will meet great people like Barney, the "Priest's Boy," who, at the age of sixty-six, rules both parish and priest with a rod of iron, and finds his match only in the postmistress; and the tyrannical Bacach (beggar), who is the newspaper of the countryside and commands the best of food and lodging that every house can afford; and the Come-Home Yankee with his marvellous tales of Coney Island or Jee-cago. You will get acquainted

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with the tinkers, and the Bachelors of Braggy, and the Masther, and Father Dan. You will spend the day cutting turf in the bog, and will listen in the evening to stories of the Gentle People, and Phelimy Og, and Denis a-Cuinn, and the Grey Man. Altogether it will be your own fault entirely if you do not enjoy yourself. An idea of the style may be obtained from this anecdote of the first day at school:

Your hardihood had to stand its final test in the Square Park after school was loosed. There, while the other pairs of knights waited their turn, you planted your black bare foot opposite Micky Tummoney's very black bare foot, and the two of you glared at each other—all the more fearfully because neither of you knew what he was glaring about. As both of you were dilatory about leading unprovoked hostilities, any one of a dozen obliging friends *(agents provocateurs)*, always prompt to further a good cause, extended a horizontal arm between you, saying, "Who dar' spit over that?" when both of you, instantaneously and simultaneously daring, gave and got glorious cause for battle.

ISLAM IN EARLY DOCUMENTS.

The Early Development of Mohammedanism. By D. S. Margoliouth. The Hibbert Lectures, May and June, 1913. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. $2 net.

After having made a careful study of the life of Mohammed and prepared a sketch of his religious system, Dr. Margoliouth has begun to investigate "the supplementing of the Koran." The material used is in the main recently printed works of Moslem authors of the third century of the Hegira. An advance guard of present-day Mohammedans has evidently arrived at the point of desiring easy access to their ancient documents, though scarcely any of them are as yet capable of scientific criticism. Accordingly they publish texts which a few Westerners, like Drs. Goldziher, Snouck Hurgronje, Macdonald, and Margoliouth, are examining with similar intent to that of the many great scholars who have sought to comprehend the origin and growth of Christianity by the interpretation of its early literature.

The title of the present book is considerably more ambitious than its contents justify. The author believes, perhaps erroneously, that "Islam was far more a political than a religious system," but he makes no attempt to follow out the direct line of its political development. Nor does he trace other elements which were equally a part of the singularly unified Mohammedan scheme of life, such as the constitutional, the military, the commercial, the educational, and the literary aspects. Moreover, within his chosen topics, which are the Koran, the Sacred Law, the tolerated communities, and the ethical, ascetic, philosophical, and historical supplements to the Koran, he does not attempt a complete survey, but presents the point of view of a limited number of original authorities. But the material he provides is valuable, and much of it is fresh either in content or in point of view.

The Koran and not the Caliphs took the place of the deceased Prophet. For a century and a half it was deemed the only necessary Moslem writing. But a great mass of oral material, interpretative or supplementary, was accumulated rapidly. In time much of this was written down.

The author's general tendency is to minimize the introduction of ideas from outside during the period of oral tradition. Admitting that Mohammed was under some influence from Jews, Greeks, and Christians, he denies that these, or Romans, Hindus, and Persians, had much to do with the unfolding of Moslem thought and life. He is able even to find a sufficient basis for the Sufic development through asceticism to pantheism in Mohammed's insistence that "there is no God but Allah, with whom nothing can be associated." It is hard to agree with the view that the early Moslem progress was so unrelated. When an undeveloped people, supplied with a fresh combination of powerfully stimulating ideas, spreads itself thinly over an area occupied by great numbers of more advanced peoples, and later is found in possession of views that had existed long among the conquered peoples, it is easier to believe that these views were adopted than that they were rapidly and independently expanded out of the original ideas, however possible an expansion of this kind may be from a logical point of view. Had the writer brought within his ken a larger amount of Moslem material of the fourth and fifth centuries, he could hardly have rejected many evident derivations from Roman law and government, from Persian ceremony and mysticism, and from Greek philosophy and science. Nor is it likely that these influences became operative only as late as the tenth century of the Christian era. Close contact, of certain sorts, especially with Romans and Persians, was established within five years after the death of Mohammed, and relations were thenceforth steadily broadened and deepened with the growth of empire and the bringing in of countless converts.

Exception may also be taken to the assertion with which the author begins, to the effect that "Islam has to be preached with the sword, for without going into the water one cannot learn to swim, and there is no probationary dip." For though no unbeliever might in the early days lawfully purchase or touch a copy of the Koran, or enter a mosque, or witness a pilgrimage, there were always alternative ways of becoming acquainted with Moslem belief and practice. In fact, the writer himself admits the existence of several methods of non-forcible conversion (pp. 132, 133); among these, however, that of the persuasion of unbelievers by believers finds no place. Is Dr. Margoliouth unacquainted with J. W. Arnold's convincing book, "The Preaching of Islam"? In fact, the general criticism may be made that the writer has placed too exclusive reliance upon a few original authorities, and has not sufficiently enlarged his point of view by consulting carefully the works of modern predecessors and contemporaries.

Mohammedans and some Christian scholars will hardly be pleased with the assertion that the earliest life of the Prophet "places all the generosity, the heroism, and the public and private virtues on the side of Mohammed's enemies"; nor can they accept the sharp concluding contrast drawn between the historical and the fictitious Mohammed, of whom the one is made out to be a resourceful but unscrupulous politician, and the other "the legislator, the saint, and the thaumaturge."

Other interesting questions are raised by the writer, which reveal extensive possibilities of critical research into many phases of the vast Moslem civilization. The foundations of many familiar statements in regard to it are evidently far from secure.

AN OPPONENT OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Antigonos Gonatas. By William Woodthorpe Tarn. Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 14s. net.

This book deserves our attention on several grounds. It is the work, not of a professional scholar, but of a lawyer who has made Greek history his avocation; yet it is distinguished by the rigor of its method and the mastery it evinces of the sources and the scientific literature of the subject. Its central figure is less known even in professional circles than he ought to be. Antigonos Gonatas merits the penetrating and sympathetic interpretation he has now for the first time received for two reasons that the general reader can appreciate: he was the patron of Zeno, the founder of Stoicism, and he was the persistent adversary of the first experiment in federal government known to history. Naturally, Mr. Tarn has been alive to the outstanding aspects of his theme.

His first chapter, entitled The Teachers of Antigonos, puts Zeno into his historical *milieu;* his eighth, Antigonos and His Circle, introduces us happily to the group of poets, philosophers, and historians which the King's personal interest in their work attracted to his court: Persaios, Zeno's unworthy deputy; Aratos of Soli, whose famous poem, the much-translated, horribly dull "Phainomena," did not merely provide "dry bread for readers surfeited with literary sugarplums," but represents "the first halting attempt that the world has seen 'with patient plan To justify the ways of God to man'—to bring out the Stoic doctrine of Providence"; Hieronymos of Cardia, whose repute as an historian has risen steadily with the decline of the notion that history is merely a literary exercise; Bion, the wandering cynic from Borysthenes, half-mountebank, half-preacher, the coiner of phrases whose "downright vulgarity struck Plutarch no less forcibly than it does ourselves," the author of the winged words in regard to the dying frog, "The boys stone it in sport, but the frog dies in simple earnest"—a man of dual nature, an Odysseus in beggar's rags, thought the great con-

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temporary scientist Eratosthenes. All of these men are considered in this chapter in the light of their personal friendship with Antigonos.

In regard to the Ætolian League, Mr. Tarn nowhere takes a very definite position; he simply describes its growth, and inadequately explains its nature. Of its Achæan rival he has more to say. His attitude to it and to Greek federalism in general is frankly hostile. "The [Achæan] League in fact," he says, "was a bit of the Macedonian empire broken off and fitted with a new constitution. The reason of its existence as a part of that empire had been to act as a counterpoise to Sparta; and this remained its function." This is, we think, to minimize greatly the importance of the federal movement; it is to view it too exclusively from the Macedonian point of view of Antigonos Gonatas; and, taken as a whole, Mr. Tarn's book is nothing less than a consideration of half a century of eventful Greek history from the standpoint of Macedon's King. That federalism, despite its ultimate failure, was something more than a visionary project or a form of government devised for a bit of the Macedonian empire broken off, is shown by the fact that, notwithstanding Gonatas's refusal to make any compromises with it, his statesmanlike kinsman, Antigonos Doson, adopted it as the basis of his unification of Hellas, and even went so far as to make Macedon itself a federal league.

PUNISHMENT AND REFORM.

Those Who Have Come Back. By Peter Clark MacFarlane. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. $1.35 net.

The Man Behind the Bars. By Winifred Louise Taylor. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. $1.50 net.

The science of criminology and the art of philanthropy have done much, in the course of a generation, towards checking the production of criminals, humanizing the state's treatment of them after conviction, and increasing their chances of reform. Of the theories and methods involved in this progress journalism has made much copy. Is heredity or environment the chief factor in the breeding of crime? Was Lombroso right about his "criminal type"? Are a considerable proportion of prisoners innocent, or at least more sinned against than sinning? Is the whole idea of punishment to be supplanted by an idea of reform and rescue?

The two books before us deal somewhat emotionally with the criminal and his relation to society. The fundamental conviction upon which they both are based is that the "man behind the bars" is a fellow-being and not a monster; that accident or circumstance, not innate depravity, is ordinarily responsible for his plight; and that even in his deepest guilt he is capable, under favorable conditions, of becoming a useful member of society instead of a burden upon it—of "coming back." Yet these books are radically different in source and in spirit. The author of "Those Who Have Come Back" has seen an opening in the case of the criminal for a series of good magazine "stories." He has caught the peculiar jaunty, snappy style which "gets across" with that immense grammar-schooled public to which the ten-cent magazine stands for literature. He has chosen a number of instances of persons far gone in vice and crime who have "come back" and "made good." No glamour is to be cast about these crooks *qua* crooks; but they are represented as victims rather than degenerates or defectives:

> As long as we have poverty in our midst desperate want will revolt in desperate deeds, and poverty we shall have until the race has reached a higher average of thrift and efficiency, and industrial conditions are developed on a basis of fairness to all; and where there is a weak link in the moral nature of a man undue pressure of temptation, brought to bear on that link, will cause it to break, even while in his heart the man may be hungering and thirsting for righteousness.

Miss Taylor's book is written from a different experience and a different motive. She addresses an audience, not a market. She also believes that "the criminal problem is one of conditions quite as much as 'cases.' In our large cities, the reservoirs of crime, we are but reaping the harvest of centuries of evil in older civilizations, and in our own civilization as well." She also has instances to cite of criminals who have come back. "In my preconceived opinion, the most hopeless case I ever assisted surprised me by settling down, under favorable environment, into an honest, self-supporting citizen." But she has not "got up" her subject as an outsider may. For many years she has studied prisoners and made friends of them. She writes of them, she confesses, with a confidence which belongs to her nature, but it belongs also to her method of approaching them: "Doubtless the key to my own position is the fact that I have always studied these prisoners as men; and I tried not to obscure my vision by looking at them through their crimes." Her experience makes her indignant at our ruthless legal methods, especially in the cities: "Railroading men to prison is purely a matter of business; no consideration is given to the individual accused, he is no longer a human being, he is simply a 'case.'" She also dwells on the cruelties and crudities of prison discipline, the enforced speech of the "third degree," the more deadly enforced silence of the cells and the prison-yard. Of the more humane methods now coming into use, of the probation system, and so on, she speaks with hopefulness. But the movement has only begun, the great tradition is yet to be broken, and Miss Taylor puts her trust in no half-measures: "I have no wish to see our prisons abolished," she sums up, "but thousands of individuals and millions of dollars have been sacrificed to wrong methods of punishment; and if we aim to reform our criminals we must first reform our methods of dealing with them, from the police courts to the penitentiary."

ORIENTAL MYTHS.

Myths of the Hindus and Buddhists. By Sister Nivedita and Ananda Coomaraswamy. New York: Henry Holt & Co. $4.50 net.

The scope of this volume is ambitious—the material is collated with a view to satisfying a popular interest in two of the great religions of India; but was it wise to assume that a similarity of thought and fancy justifies their being presented as part of some one fabric? It is not to be expected that two exponents of Hinduism could do justice to Buddhism in so intimate a juxtaposition. The Hindu student is characteristically inclined to exploit Buddhism for the Western reader as one of the manifestations of his own intellectual life. Here, the Buddhist myths are arbitrarily injected into the middle of the Hindu story, with a sudden reversion to the latter, and without clear explanation to the reader—an illogical arrangement.

In issuing from Brahmanism, Buddhism carried with it a great stock of notions, mythological and cosmographical, as well as philosophical; but it had elements of original vitality—chiefly its founder's personality—which so sharply distinguished it that an assimilation of the new with the old is unthinkable from the Buddhist point of view. After all, an association may be justified when we come to folk-lore and legend, in which sphere the two religions hold more or less in common, for example, the Ramayana story. As the authors assert, a version of this epic is to be found in one of the Jātakas. It should be remembered that the Jātakas were put into their present shape as late as about the fifth century A. D. in Ceylon; but the collection existed in a more or less copious form as early as the time of Asoka (250 B. C.), while the materials embodied date from times immemorial. The Jātaka tale of the Six-tusked Elephant (p. 252) is a favorite in early plastic art. It can hardly be said (p. 245) that Buddha's father was *raja* of the Sakiyas: authentic Pali sources speak of a republic. What is meant by the statement (p. 248) that Buddha lived and died a Hindu? His sneering remarks about the "Brahmins versed in the Three Vedas" are inconsistent with any continued recognition of Vedic authority, which, presumably then as later, was the criterion of orthodoxy. The Hindu stories from the epics are well told and are a tribute to the enthusiasm with which Sister Nivedita entered into Hindu life and thought, in her endeavor to bring Western sympathy and understanding nearer the subject race.

Of the beautiful illustrations in the volume more than passing mention might be made. Briefly, the care and scholarship shown by the Indian illustrators are a favorable omen for the establishment of a school in the worthy traditions that obtained during the seventh and eighth centuries, the classic period of Indian art. Many of the scenes clustering about Plate xx are beautifully shown in the famous Gandhara sculptures.

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Notes

Charles Scribner's Sons announce the publication of "With the Allies," by Richard Harding Davis.

Frederick A. Stokes Company will publish next month: "Before the Gringo Came," by Gertrude Atherton; "The Good Shepherd," by John Roland; "School Hygiene," by Leo Burgerstein.

The Century Company announces for publication this month "The Revolutionary Period in Europe: 1763-1815," by Henry E. Bourne.

G. P. Putnam's Sons announce the publication of: "Deutschland über Alles," by John Jay Chapman; "Fear and Conventionality," by Elsie Clews Parsons; "A History of Old Kinderhook," by Edward A. Collier.

Henry Holt & Company announce the forthcoming publication of: "Possession," by George Middleton; "How to Produce Plays for Children," by Constance D'Arcy Mackay; "Short Plays About Famous Authors," by Maude M. Frank.

The Poems of Edgar Allan Poe, in the collection edited by Edmund Clarence Stedman and George Edward Woodberry, are now brought out in a pleasing volume by Scribners ($2 net, illustrated).

Reissues this season of J. W. McSpadden's Synopses of Shakespeare's plays, Dickens's novels, and Scott's Waverley novels bespeak the demand in which this convenient little series is held (Crowell; 75 cents net, each).

Bulfinch's Mythology has, it seems, maintained its appeal into the present generation of readers. It is now issued (Crowell; $1.50 net) in a single serviceable volume, with good print, containing the Age of Fable, The Age of Chivalry, and Legends of Charlemagne. The book is furnished with thirty-two illustrations.

We have received from the West Publishing Co. of St. Paul, Minn., "Compiled Statutes of the United States, Embracing the Statutes of the United States, of a General and Permanent Nature, in Force December 31, 1913," compiled by John A. Mallory, assisted by members of the publishers' editorial staff. We need scarcely add that this work, which is in five stout volumes, is invaluable for reference.

The revolution brought about in the banking system of the United States by the passage of the Federal Reserve act in December, 1913, has, no doubt, been the occasion of a new fifth edition of Mr. Horace White's "Money and Banking" and of Prof. Joseph French Johnson's "Money and Currency." Both these well-known textbooks have been reissued by Ginn & Co. ($1.50; $1.75), with added chapters discussing the new legislation. Mr. White does not offer any detailed opinion as to the probable working of the act beyond saying that "the fact that the national banks have joined together with practical unanimity to put it in operation makes it highly probable that it will be a success" (p. 449). Professor Johnson is not quite so hopeful, and considers that "it is impossible to foretell the effects of the establishment of this new banking system" (p. 378). He points out that it contains features which were "the subject of severe criticism from many quarters" (p. 380), as, for example, its practical coercion of the national banks, compulsory rediscounts by one regional bank for another, the number of regional banks, the nature and conditions of issue of the new notes, and the adequacy of control provided. It is this last feature to which failure of the law, if it should occur, will probably have to be charged. Professor Johnson definitely favors the "one central bank" idea as the scientific way of meeting the currency requirements of a country like the United States.

One turns to Mary Edith Durham's "The Fight for Scutari" (Longmans, Green; $4 net), prepared for disappointment. Nothing in international politics that is older than August, 1914, can have interest or value. And if it comes to fighting, what possible comparison is there between the desultory raids and snipings and petty starvations of the Albanian highlanders and the mighty European melodrama? One finds Miss Durham's book fascinating. Possibly because the gigantic battlefields and holocausts of the world war after all leave the imagination dulled, this picture of primitive border warfare grasps the reader by its very concreteness. And after all the petty turmoils of Albania in 1910-12 were the prelude to the great drama of 1914. Albania it was that gave the signal for the Balkan upheaval against the New Turk and hastened on the two wars which, by humbling the Turk and exalting the Serb, brought on the great conflict. Thus one gets the rare sensation of watching, in the interplay of petty chieftains and the wars of small tribes, a Punch and Judy show which, by a swift darkening and illumination of the theatre, revels as "Macbeth." Nor is it the least charm of the book that it is written by an observer who was a participant in a very rare sense. Miss Durham, by long acquaintance and sympathy, had made herself a power among the mountaineers of the Adriatic coastlands, taming the savage tribes whom Rome and the Ottomans had failed to subdue. To her come shaggy highland chiefs for advice and intercession, governors, prime ministers, princes of the blood, if only of Montenegrin blood. She reminds one of nothing so much as of the wise women whom the early Teutonic tribesmen honored and obeyed; except in the spirited partisanship with which she defends the cause of her favorite Albanians against their betrayers—Turk, Montenegrin, or Serb.

The merit of "Thistledown: A Book of Scotch Humor, Character, Folk-Lore, Story, and Anecdote" (Stokes; $1.75 net), by Robert Ford, resides in the countless and often delightful anecdotes that the author has gathered, rather than in his study of the nature of Scotch humor. The book is, indeed, little more than a collection of illustrations of Scotch humor roughly classified under such heads as Old Scotch Divines, Scotch Precentors, Dram-Drinking, Scottish Rural Life, Scotch Naturals. The author has shown more than ordinary skill in excluding pointless stories, and in including stories that, in addition to being amusing, afford an insight into Scotch character. The foreign air of the book is enhanced by colored drawings well executed by John Duncan, and by the author's curious style, which has a touch of old-fashioned pompousness, and contains more than one "manifest Scotticism." One anecdote will suffice to reward the reader of the present paragraph:

"Jock," cried a farmer's wife to her cowherd, "come awa' in to your parritch, or the flees 'ill be droonin' themsel's in your milk bowl."

"Nae fear o' that," was Jock's roguish reply. "They'll wade through."

"Ye scoondrel," cried the mistress indignantly, "d'ye mean to say that ye dinna get eneuch milk?"

"Ou, ay," said Jock, "I get plenty o' milk for a' the parritch."

The melancholy interest which attaches to the unfortunate illegitimates of the great is sufficiently related in Hector Fleishmann's "Unknown Son of Napoleon" (John Lane; $3 net). It might more properly have been entitled an unfortunate or unwelcome son, for Count Léon was only too well knowu under the Second Empire, pestering his cousin for interviews and money. After sinking lower and lower in life, this eldest son of Napoleon died in Paris in 1881, and was laid in a pauper's grave by the side of the nameless poor and needy. He left four children, one of whom, following the spirit of adventure innate in the Bonaparte family, became a leading light in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. In the first half of his volume the author reveals the seamy side of the domestic life of a certain Revel, paymaster of dragoons, and his pretty eighteen-year-old wife, Eléonore Denuelle de la Plaigne, who in 1806 became by Napoleon the mother of Count Léon. The Emperor manifested a certain affection for this boy, who was proof that Josephine's childlessness was not due to her imperial husband's incapacity. He secretly acknowledged his own paternity by placing Léon under the guardianship of the Meneval family and by making financial provision for him. The second half of the volume is devoted more particularly to describing Count Léon's unfortunate and unedifying downward career. Under Louis Philippe's Government, when the Napoleonic legend was swelling under the influence of Thiers and Béranger and the St. Helena literature, Léon became a member of the National Guard and enjoyed a certain specious popularity on account of his striking physical resemblance to his father. But already he had got into difficulties by his spendthrift habits and worthless associates His cousins and uncles would not receive him. This led to the farcical attempt at a duel with Louis Napoleon on Wimbledon Common in 1840, when the Bow Street police interfered and Boston's benefactor, Joshua Bates, went bail for the future good behavior of his Napoleonic friend. In an appendix the author examines the stories as to Napoleon's other alleged children; he concludes that only three are proved—Count Léon, Count Walewski, and the King of Rome.

Wilson King's "Chronicles of Three Free Cities: Hamburg, Bremen, Lübeck" (Dutton; $4 net) does not profess to add anything to German historical research into the past of the three remaining Hanseatic cities; it is rather a modest but assiduous attempt on the part of one well qualified by residence and reading to arouse in English and American readers an interest like his own in records of civic and commercial achievement. An introduction by J. P. Mahaffy gives a

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brief survey of the development of trading cities from Tyre to Liverpool, and calls attention to the European aspect of Mr. King's subject. Mr. King's own narrative is quite detailed and circumstantial, everywhere sympathetic, and nowhere dull. Numerous illustrations in black and white, and a few in colors, have been contributed by Mrs. King and others. They not only serve the purpose of vivifying the narrative, but are excellent in themselves.

A. W. Holland's "Germany" in the series called The Making of the Nations (Macmillan; $2 net) gives in a sober style an authentic outline of German history from the time of the migrations to the end of the year 1913. From the nature of the case, the greater part of the book is a record of wars, but there are brief considerations of the causes and the results of conflicts, as well as of public policies and public and private achievements. The book is illustrated with maps and many good photogravures.

In "John Hay: Author and Statesman" (Dodd, Mead; $1 net), Prof. Lorenzo Sears gives a pleasant eulogy of the American public man who, more than any other of his time, seems to have taken hold on the hearts of his countrymen. Hay's work as Secretary of State has passed into a legend, and Professor Sears carries forward the idealizing process. We do not imply that much of this idealization was not justified; we merely wish that the eulogist had had more acquaintance with the inside facts of Hay's life and work so that he could have made a more solid memorial of him. We get a little impression of one

> too good
> For human nature's daily food,

which Hay himself would have been the first to smile at and disavow.

We have before us three additions to the already mighty company of Napoleonic books of recent arrival. Of these, Major Arthur Griffiths's "Life of Napoleon" (Philadelphia: Lippincott; $1.75 net) is hardly a biography in the modern sense; rather a story pleasantly retold. The work appears without prefatory excuse, nor are we enlightened as to the class of reader for whom it is intended. Scarcely for young searchers after truth. Perhaps the old may read it and feel young again—safe in that they are beyond being misled by the art of the story-teller. It is enlivened by an attractive Napoleonic portrait gallery. The title of William Henry Hudson's volume, "The Man Napoleon" (Crowell; $1.50 net), is its justification. It is, in fact, a careful and eminently readable study of the life of the great Corsican, disengaged, so far as possible, from history, "which is treated only as the background and setting of his career." For this relief, much thanks. Drum and trumpet history, under guise of biography, is fast becoming an intolerable nuisance. The author's own feelings in regard to Napoleon's character—"not admiration, but aversion, not unmingled with pity and contempt"—are not allowed to tinge his narrative, which is candid and judicial throughout. The illustrations are unusually good. In "The Decline and Fall of Napoleon" (Philadelphia: Lippincott; $1.25 net) is republished, in book form, a series of articles by the late Viscount Wolseley which originally appeared in the *Pall Mall Magazine*. Intended as a study of the strength and weakness—as exhibited in his last disastrous campaigns—of the leader whom the author regarded as "a superhuman genius" and "by far the greatest of all men," these collected papers have a special appeal just now, bringing out, as they do, many points of comparison and contrast in Napoleon's final struggle with that at present raging. Then, as until quite recently, Russia was, from a military point of view, the unknown quantity. Then, as now, unhappy Belgium was the cockpit of Europe.

From the days of Tristram Shandy onwards we have had many studies under many names of the engaging personality that has gained world-wide recognition as "Mr. Thomas Atkins"; there has been none more convincing, more revealing, or more lovable than that sketched in the little collection of extracts from his own letters from the front, entitled "Tommy Atkins at War, as Told in His Own Letters" (McBride, 50 cents), and ably edited by Mr. James A. Kilpatrick. His pluck, his kindliness, his patience, and his good-nature stand out the more compellingly because their expression is so unstudied; and we realize, if we contrast them with the most capable literary "studies" from the outside, how ineffective is the *mot juste* when compared with the plain truth. Naturally the editor of these letters has sought here and there to point the moral, but his intrusions are delicately conceived, and do not spoil the picture. To gain some real idea of the actual conditions under which the greatest of wars is being fought and of the personalities which make up one of the contending forces the possession of this little book is imperative. Incidentally, although it is from the nature of the case one-sided, the editor has striven to be fair to the brave men who are dying for the other side of the argument, and it is perhaps a pity in this connection that certain references to "barbarities" in the chapter Tommy Atkins and the Enemy, obviously written in the very heat of battle, were not omitted.

There was need of a short history of India, "up to date" in respect of geographical and racial information, and in "Ancient India from the Earliest Times to the First Century A. D." (Cambridge University Press; Putnam; 75 cents), E. J. Rapson, has filled the need. Not so archæological as the volume on "Antiquities of India," recently reviewed in these columns, this little book is yet based on both literary and monumental evidence. Its author is well known as an authority on numismatics, and he has brought to the making of this work a great store of knowledge from his own field. Coins and inscriptions are of prime importance in constructing the history of a land practically without a history of its own. Especially is this true of the debatable reigns of kings after the third century B. C. For the still earlier period, Professor Rapson offers no new material save that which shows the Dravidians to have been not original inhabitants, but invaders from the northwest, like the Aryans. It might have been said also that the Aryans themselves probably entered India in different hosts of different dialectic characteristics. Of the civilization of the earliest literary period, not 3000 but circa 1200 B. C. the author gives an excellent summary in which modern German scholarship has not been neglected. By the third century B. C. the admirable survey begins to show the result of the author's independent researches. Here, too, is room to question whether some of Professor Rapson's statements may not be adversely criticised, notably in regard to the extent of Asoka's kingdom, which was perhaps less firmly established in the south than the author asserts. But in general the student may thankfully accept so readable and trustworthy a manual of Indian history and geography as is here presented, particularly as it contains a mass of matter hitherto inaccessible save to specialists.

Dr. Alexander Campbell Fraser, professor emeritus of logic and metaphysics in Edinburgh University and a writer on philosophical subjects, died in Edinburgh on December 3. He was born at Ardchattan Manse, County Argyll, Scotland, in 1819, the son of the Rev. Hugh and Maria Helen Campbell Fraser, and was educated at home and at Edinburgh University. He was professor of logic at New College, Edinburgh, 1846-56, and from 1856 to 1891 was professor of logic and metaphysics in Edinburgh University, in succession to Sir William Hamilton. From 1850 to 1857 he was editor of the *North British Review*. Dr. Fraser received the honorary degree of D.C.L. from Oxford in 1883, that of LL.D. from Princeton in 1856, from Glasgow in 1871, from Edinburgh in 1891, and from Aberdeen in 1906. He also received the honorary degree of Litt.D. from Dublin in 1902. He was Gifford lecturer in natural theology in Edinburgh, 1894-96, and became a Fellow of the Royal Society, Edinburgh, in 1858, and a Fellow of the British Academy in 1903. Among his publications were: "Essays in Philosophy," 1846-56; "Essays, Philosophical and Miscellaneous," 1858-68; "Collected Works of Bishop Berkeley," annotated; "Life and Letters of Berkeley," 1871; "Berkeley in Philosophical Classics," 1881; "Locke in Philosophical Classics," 1890; "Locke's Essay on Human Understanding, with Prolegomena, Notes and Dissertations," 1894; "Thomas Reid," a biography, 1898; "Philosophy of Theism," 1898; "Locke as a Factor in Modern Thought," read in the British Academy on the bicentenary of Locke's death, 1904, and "Berkeley and Spiritual Realism," 1909.

A protective-tariff expert, a leader in Congress and a member for so many years without break as to have become the Father of the House, yet one whose sole contribution to permanent literature consists of a pamphlet reprint of one speech, and whose name does not appear in any of the standard encyclopædias, is a curiosity in these days of self-exploitation. Such a man was the late Sereno Elisha Payne, Representative from the Auburn district of New York State. Like his old-time colleague, John H. Ketcham, of Poughkeepsie, he had mastered the art of speaking by his very silence; and he had acquired such a standing in the neighborhood of his home that he was returned, term after term, without any effort on his part. There was nothing picturesque about his personality, as about that of every other member of the little group with whom he acted. He had not Reed's wit or Dolliver's eloquence, Cannon's quaintness or McKinley's charm, Kelley's weight or Dingley's plodding patience. His chief stock in trade, where his official manner was concerned, was a smiling, but not the less deadly, indifference to what any opponent said or thought. When Reed,

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as Speaker, wished to put temporarily in the chair a fellow partisan whom he could trust absolutely to hold down the minority while the Republicans turned out a couple of Democratic Representatives whose seats had been contested, he called upon Payne, whom he knew no arguments could convince, no sophistries disturb, no threats alarm. Payne proved worthy of his confidence. Bailey of Texas might roar "No quorum!" at him, and McMillin of Tennessee fling contemptuous epithets in the face of the majority, but the temporary tenant of the chair paid no more heed to them than to the winds which blew outside of the chamber: he would neither reverse his rulings nor entertain an appeal, but, looking not to right or left, kept his gavel beating its relentless tattoo on the desk till the two Democrats were out and the contesting Republicans were in.

It was the same way with his share in general debate. No man on the floor of the House prepared his basic data in advance with more care, and then he never allowed any one to bait him by drawing him into a controversy over details. He disposed, with his characteristic smile and his equally characteristic silence, of even so tempting a critic as the late Francis W. Cushman of Washington, who, taking for his text Payne's explanation that hides ought to come in free because they were only a by-product of the live stock which were protected by strong duties, insisted that, by parity of reasoning, milk and eggs should have their tariff rates removed.

Mr. Payne was not without a sense of humor, though the joke must be pretty plain to find him instantly appreciative, and he rarely, if ever, told one himself. Moreover, he was cautious almost to suspiciousness in dealing with men whom he had not known long enough to understand thoroughly. It is not surprising, therefore, that he passed among his associates as a dependable rather than an attractive man. Nearly every one had a pleasant word for him, and his quarrels were too few to be remembered; but, though an old friend here and there addressed him as Sereno, he never achieved a nickname, even of the affectionate sort.

The life of the late William Woodville Rockhill had in it a lesson for ambitious youth, for it showed the value, both to himself and to the world, of having a hobby which carried him somewhere. Rockhill's hobby, which he rode from youth, was Tibet, the country of which, from Marco Polo's time to his, so little was known and so much imagined. He began preparing, in his college days, for his work as an explorer by taking a special course in Chinese along with his studies of other living languages, and after graduation sought an appointment as a secretary of legation at Peking for the purpose of perfecting himself in both Chinese and Tibetan. This was no easy task, since every one thereabouts who knew the language of Tibet became suspicious of his designs as soon as he expressed a desire for instruction, and most of what he learned he had to acquire by stealth. After four years of such self-training he took his first plunge by disguising himself as a Chinese priest and crossing the border of the Forbidden Land. This trip consumed about a year, during which he discovered how to make his way about and divested himself of the notion, then so commonly held in Western Europe and the United States, that the Tibetans were merely intractable savages. Thus he paved the way for a more extended and fruitful tour which he made a year or two later, accompanied by a small retinue of Chinese servants and a bodyguard of ten native soldiers hired from a chief whom he found not wholly impervious to the influence of foreign coin, and equipped with a photographic camera and a few surveying instruments.

How little of a pleasure-jaunt this journey was may be inferred from the fact that in one period of eleven months he covered about eight thousand miles, making his way in the most primitive fashion; crossed sixty-nine passes ranging from 14,000 to 18,000 feet above sea-level; lived sixty days at an altitude of 15,000 feet, with clothing continuously soaked by storms of rain, hail, or snow, and was unable during this interval to procure any food worth mentioning, and no drink but tea. Yet with all their soaking and freezing and starving, his party knew not a single hour's illness from the day of leaving China proper till the day of returning thither. The geographical and ethnological data he brought home with him, and the extraordinary collection he made of articles of personal adornment, domestic implements, and paraphernalia used in religious rites, gave his two excursions high rank among modern scientific enterprises of travel. One of his discoveries, of some significance to Americans, was the likeness between many of the Tibetan towns and the Indian pueblos of Arizona and New Mexico, the resemblance pervading not only situation and architecture, but also the life and worship of these widely separated communities.

NOTES FROM ABROAD.

Through the wall of official unanimity that has been thrown round Germany, an occasional dissentient voice makes itself heard. Dr. Martin Rade, Protestant pastor in the University town of Marburg, is editor of the *Christliche Welt,* and was to have spoken at the proposed international congress of Christian Socialism, at Basel, in Switzerland. Instead he writes:

I can not but deplore the Imperial Chancellor's fashion of treating the question of neutral countries (in his speech of August 4 before the Reichstag), for it was not necessary to have recourse to so dubious a proverb as "Necessity knows no law." With such a proverb he will never be able to persuade those who see in the possibility and existence of neutral countries a triumph of the law of nations. This is why it will be hard to mend the harm done by the German Empire's not keeping clear from the start of the fault committed by violating the rights of the Belgians. I defy any one to say that this thought of mine is unpatriotic.

The needs disclosed by the present war have already stimulated the French Government and people to significant precautions for the future. The Minister of Public Instruction has worked out a plan for the general physical training of French young men from the age of fifteen to eighteen years. A beginning was made at a meeting of the authorities and professors of Paris colleges with representatives of the federations of sports, physical culture, and military preparation. The rector of the University of Paris, M. Liard, whose position places him at the head of the academic institutions of the capital and surrounding region, presided. He explained that one duty was urgent on all, to train up and prepare for the country and its army the young men who will be summoned to-morrow to take the place of their elders in the life of the community. The Minister has named as delegate Pierre de Coubertin, who some twenty years ago gave prizes in several American universities for French work, and, in his own country, has headed the movement towards athletic sports as well as taking a leading part in the international Olympic games. He spoke at some length of the necessity of bringing into the habits of Frenchmen the cultivation of their physical person:

The Englishman cultivates freely his muscular machine. He considers it a patriotic duty to be in perfect physical condition, in the fulness of muscular efficiency, and to possess the best of health by severe hygiene. The effects of such education have admirable consequences when applied to war. In excellent physical condition and accustomed to this severe hygiene, the English soldier supports remarkably the inclemencies of weather; and, whenever he has the least leisure and finds the slightest means, he applies himself to the cares of cleanliness.

M. de Coubertin went on to explain the work in which Government thus takes the initiative—to form in all young Frenchmen, by appropriate exercise in gymnasiums and the open air, a state of mind which will lead them to prepare themselves for physical culture and resistance of body, so that they may be ready to become robust soldiers. Training centres, under professionals and monitors, are to be established throughout Paris and the suburbs within the means of all. The Hébert method will be used for marching, foot-racing, jumping, throwing, swimming, boxing, and single-stick. For students these centres will work in connection with their schools; for young men living in their families there will be convenient centres. For greater exercises the municipal and military authorities of Paris have been asked to give the land in the Champ de Mars which American visitors to universal expositions will remember as the site of that immense piece of steel engineering, the Galerie des Machines. All professionals of athletics have been invited to help in this revival of national physical culture—and preparation.

Ferdinand Hodler, a Swiss painter who has won wide recognition in Germany, signed the collective protest of writers and artists of Geneva against the bombardment of Rheims cathedral. In consequence, the Cologne Gallery has taken down a painting by him and replaced it by an accusing inscription. The Secession Salons of Berlin and Munich, and now that of Vienna, have dropped his name from their list of members. The University of Jena had one of his best-known pictures, Departure of Students in the Napoleonic Wars. This it now offers for sale, the money to be given to the German Red Cross. The venerable Professor Haeckel has charged himself with this exemplary punishment, and, at last reports, had received a bid of 20,000 marks. Gunsburger, of Geneva, who already has forty paintings by Hodler, is organizing an exhibition of his works, with the proceeds of which he hopes to buy back the University-spurned picture for the artist's native and neutral Switzerland.

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Science

THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.

The autumn meeting of the National Academy of Sciences was held on December 7, 8, and 9, at the University of Chicago, for the second time in its existence. Although a rather small number of members were present, on account of the late date and the distance from the homes of the majority, an unusual number of papers were read, thirty-six in all, largely by guests of the Academy. The variety and interest of these papers, distributed among astronomy (8), mathematics (6), physics, chemistry, and zoölogy (5 each), botany (4), physiology (2), and geophysics (1), served to emphasize the strength of this region as a centre of scientific research.

W. W. Campbell, of the Lick Observatory, in a paper on "The Radial Velocities of Nebulæ," gave an account of results obtained during the last three years at the Lick Observatory and its branch at Santiago, Chili, on the determination by the spectroscope of the velocities of fifty-four nebulæ towards or away from our system. These nebulæ are found to have very high velocities, which are not, as in the case of the stars, distributed according to the law of probability. The average velocity of these nebulæ is seven times the average velocity of the helium stars, which have generally been supposed to be the stars most recently evolved from nebulæ. There is thus some basis for the suggestion that planetary nebulæ have been formed from the rushing of high-velocity stars through space. George E. Hale, of the Carnegie Institution Solar Observatory at Mt. Wilson, presented a paper on "The Direction of Rotation of Solar Storms," in which he followed up the consequences of his remarkable discovery that vortical whirls in the atmosphere of the sun produce magnetic fields large enough to displace the spectrum lines, by the detailed study of the direction of rotation in such vortices. It was soon noticed that sun-spots rotating in opposite directions are found in the same solar hemisphere, but these are easily explained as opposite ends of a single vortex like that made by a paddle in water. It is found that the sun may be divided into zones, symmetrical with respect to the equator, in each of which the rotation is in a particular direction, which is different before and after the sun-spot minimum. E. E. Barnard, of the Yerkes Observatory, presenting an "Explanation of Certain Phenomena of the Tail of Comet Morehouse," made use of a beautiful method of examination of the shape of the tail by combining in a stereoscope two photographs taken simultaneously in Europe and America. The distance apart of the stations was amply sufficient to bring out the stereoscopic effect and to show that the tail was not merely bent, but actually twisted, presenting somewhat the appearance of a ring of cigar smoke. This was accounted for by the comet's ceasing for a short time to emit the matter composing the tail, which drifted off under the influence of some disturbing body.

A. A. Michelson, of the University of Chicago, in a study of "The Behavior of Metals and other Substances near the Rupture Point," showed that the elastic yielding takes place as if the metal were formed of three substances which act differently, the first being perfectly elastic and resuming its form when the stress is removed, the second dragging behind, and the third acting like a viscous body, not, however, according to the ordinary simple law making the viscous resistance proportional to the velocity, but more nearly to the square root of the velocity. The more often the metal is subjected to the repeated stress, the harder it becomes, so that steel may attain twice its normal hardness before breaking. An ingenious model was shown which closely imitated the phenomena described. C. T. Knipp, of the University of Illinois, in a paper on "Experimental Data on the Stability of Positive and Negative Ions," studied the motion of the positive rays sent off from a lime cathode in a vacuum tube. These rays receive an acceleration by being passed through a strong electric field, and their deflection by a magnetic field is studied by photography in J. J. Thomson's manner. Certain anomalous lines on the photograph are accounted for by supposing that the positive ion is more stable than the negative, that is, that a negative ion loses an electron more easily than does a positive ion.

T. C. Chamberlain, of the University of Chicago, in a paper on "The Fundamental Segmentation of the Earth," undertook to explain the chief surface forms of the earth as a result of stresses due to changes in the earth's period of rotation, due to its growth as postulated by the author's celebrated planetesimal hypothesis. The solid earth would first yield by bulging equatorially, and the attempt was made to explain the yielding by a sort of triangular division in which the segments were separated by lines of easement of the stresses, and these subdivisions were shown to agree in a certain manner with the great continental divisions of the globe.

A. J. Carlson, of the University of Chicago, in "Some New Observations on the Physiology of the Stomach in Man," created much interest by a graphical depiction of the pangs of hunger. He had had the advantage of a human subject with a fistula, or hole an inch in diameter in his stomach, through which all food had to be introduced, and which also permitted the introduction of apparatus, such as a balloon, for measuring pressure and showing contractions of the stomach. By other subjects the balloon could be swallowed, and the record obtained. The curves showed the rhythmical contractions of the stomach, each of which corresponds to a pang of hunger, and the reaction to various stimulations were plainly visible. The effects of fasting for a number of days, even after the sensation of hunger had ceased, could be traced by the curves.

Shiro Tashiro, of the University of Chicago, in a paper on "The Nature of Nerve Impulse," attacked the difficult question suggested by the fact that lack of fatigue and absence of heat production during stimulation of the nerve have led physiologists to suppose that the nerve impulse is transmitted without consuming any material. By means of a very delicate new apparatus, which can measure as little as one-ten-millionth of a gram of carbonic acid, it was shown that a living nerve gives off a definite amount of carbonic acid, and that stimulation increases this amount. From the evidence it was concluded that nerve impulse is a propagated chemical change, the propagation being due to restoring the equilibrium which was disturbed first at the point of stimulus.

In a study of "The Fertilizing Power of Sperm Dilutions," F. R. Lillie, of the University of Chicago, gave evidence of the truth of the theory that the fertilizing power of spermatozoa is due to a definite substance, which is lost as time goes on, so that a spermatozoön may be perfectly motile after the loss of its fertilizing power. It being assumed that an egg may be fertilized by a single spermatozoön, eggs placed in series of suspensions of sperm in sea-water of increasing dilutions should act as follows: Up to the point where each egg receives a single spermatozoön, every egg should be fertilized; beyond this the fraction of the eggs fertilized should fall off at first slowly, then rapidly, and then should decrease asymtotically to zero. This is not found to be the case unless the time is very short. A glance at the curves shows that, as the time increases, say, from five to twenty minutes, the curve falls to almost zero at a very much less dilution than before; hence the conclusion stated above. W. L. Tower, of the University of Chicago, in a study in experimental evolution entitled "Experimental Production of a New Character," succeeded by changes in the environment of the potato beetle, by exposure to heat at certain periods of growth, in producing definite changes in the form and size of the antennæ, usually considered as highly invariable organs. The changes thus produced are not known to exist in any living or fossil insects of the sort, but are formed in three states of instability, all capable of being transferred to other species through crossing, thus giving a picture of what may be one method of the production of nearly related genera.

A prominent place in the meeting was taken by the second series in the William Ellery Hale memorial lectures on evolution. At the spring meeting the introductory lectures were delivered by Sir Ernest Rutherford on "The Evolution of Matter," and at this meeting the course was continued by two lectures on "Stellar Evolution and the Formation of the Earth" by Dr. William Wallace Campbell, director of the Lick Ob-

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servatory. The lecturer gave a masterly presentation of this wide subject, taking his auditors from the farthest limits of the universe to the consideration of the smallest meteorite. Since the only way we have of studying the stars is by means of their light, it should be understood that in the very largest telescope a star, even though millions of miles in diameter, appears only as a point of light without size. In the many splendid photographs shown this is not the case, for reasons belonging to photography. In all the enormous number of visible stars no changes take place in man's lifetime, with the exception of the new stars, the clouds of Jupiter, and the sun's surface. The evolution spoken of takes times that may be measured in thousands or millions of years. It is estimated that there are about sixty to seventy million stars visible to the telescope, but this is but a small fraction of the whole number. They are supposed to form a universe of lenticular shape, of which the Milky Way shows the greatest dimension. Astronomical distances are so huge that they are estimated in light-years, that is, the distance that light, which travels 186,000 miles per second, travels in one year. Thus the nearest star to us is distant by four and one-half light-years. A star may be at a distance from its next neighbor of 80,000 light-years, while the distance from the centre to the boundary of the universe is estimated at 450 millions of light-years. Thus the stars may be in very rapid motion without seeming to change their places. The proper motion, that is, motion as it would be seen on a star map, is measured by the telescope directly, while the motions towards or away from us are measured by the displacement of the lines in the spectra. In this way it is found that the average velocity is at the rate of about nineteen kilometres per second of approach.

The earliest bodies in point of evolution are the nebulæ, or great clouds of hot gas, which all emit a characteristic spectrum, containing a line not elsewhere found, characteristic of a substance that has been called nebulium. Of these the most interesting are the great spiral nebulæ, which are enormously far off, and which avoid the Milky Way. Keeler estimates that there are one hundred thousand nebulæ visible in his telescope. By a careful comparison of the motions of all the stars that have been studied, Kapteyn has concluded that the stars may be divided into two groups, in each of which the direction and magnitude of the velocities are distributed at random, but the two groups are drifting through each other, a result intrinsically improbable, but difficult to escape.

The spectra of the stars have been arranged according to a certain classification, originated at Harvard from the results of the large number of spectra obtained by the Henry Draper telescope. It has been found that the velocity of motion of the different stars is closely connected with their spectral types, and in this way the relative age of the stars has been arrived at. Although a large and a small star may develop differently, the radiation of heat is the main factor in their development. A hot sphere of gas would tend to expand, but the mutual gravitation of its different parts causes it to contract. The work done by the forces in the contraction generates heat, so that the contraction is resisted, and then a portion of this heat is lost by radiation, so that the problem of equilibrium is a complicated one. As the temperature changes, the color and hence the spectrum change. Helmholtz calculated that a shrinkage of the sun's diameter of only forty-five feet per year would suffice to provide all the heat that it gives out, but we now know that the phenomena of radio-activity will provide immense stores of energy from atomic changes.

Our sun is a star that has cooled down so long that its spectrum is traversed by thousands of black lines due to absorption in the cooler layers of the atmosphere by which the sun is surrounded. These belong to a large number of metals which appear late in the life of a star. The solar system, best known to us because nearest, is composed of the sun, eight major planets with their twenty-six moons, about eight hundred minor planets, and meteorite swarms, but of all this the sun contains about 744 parts of mass to one part for all the rest. The orbits of all these bodies lie so nearly in one plane that the whole system could be contained in a flat box, the thickness of which was not over one-sixtieth of its diameter. Nearly all these bodies revolve around the sun in the same direction, only a few satellites going the other way. Of the various theories of the genesis of the solar system, Laplace's famous nebular hypothesis was not considered the most probable. Considerable and favorable mention was made of the planetesimal hypothesis of Chamberlain and Moulton, and the possible method of generation of the solar system from a spiral nebula was clearly described, as well as the generation of such a nebula itself. Finally, the origin of the moon was taken up, and the question whether it broke off from the earth, as assumed by Darwin and Poincaré, was examined. It was noticeable how many American names were mentioned as of importance. This extremely fragmentary account is perhaps sufficient to indicate the tremendous scope of the subjects dealt with by the lecturer, and the value to the public of the William Ellery Hale Foundation.

The Academy was most hospitably entertained by the University of Chicago, an evening reception being given by the president, and a very pleasant dinner by the Chaos Club, an "organization" of unorganized scientific workers in this region.

ARTHUR GORDON WEBSTER.

Clark University, December 12.

"Billy and Hans," by W. J. Stillman and "Billy" by Maud Thornhill Porter, two charming stories, the one of a pair of squirrels and the other of a canary, have been reprinted by Mosher in most pleasing type and equally unpleasing covers. Both are too well known from their earlier publication to need extended comment.

Drama and Music

Mr. Witter Bynner, whose work as a realistic poet has already attracted some favorable critical attention, has published a one-act play, "The Little King" (Mitchell Kennerley), which undoubtedly would be effective in stage representation, if a child could be found capable of giving a life-like interpretation of the principal character. His hero is the unfortunate little Louis, son of Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette, and his scene the cell in the Paris Temple, where the boy is imprisoned under the savage guardianship of Antoine Simon. The time chosen is the hour of the Queen's execution, and the use made of that tragic incident shows rare dramatic discernment. Barelle, the mason who has been employed to build up the windows of the cell and convert it into a dungeon, is a royalist agent who has bribed Jeanne Marie, Simon's wife, to permit the substitution of another little boy, Robert, for the captive prince. The latter, who consents to the plot, without realizing its significance, and who still believes his mother to be alive, is detected in the act of changing clothes with his substitute by Simon, who threatens to denounce his wife and everybody concerned in the conspiracy in order to obtain his own reward as a patriot, and, at the same time, brutally tells Louis that the bells which he has heard, and to which he has been made to dance, were the signal of his mother's death on the scaffold. But he changes his tune when he hears of the money to be earned, and straightway becomes eager to perfect the escape. The prince, however, inspired by parental memories, and foreseeing Robert's fate in his own, rises to royal heights, resolutely refuses to flee, and bids the faithful Barelle, on his allegiance, to depart. The curtain falls upon him standing alone, in his darkened cell.

In the matter of construction, the piece is uncommonly skilful. The action is compact, swift, and full of illuminative incident, the characterization apt and vivid. The ferocious, drunken, ruthless Simon; the blasphemous and greedy Amazon, Jeanne, and the religious and monarchical zealot, Barelle, are all drawn with a sure and realistic touch. And the boy Louis is an admirably fresh and truthful study of simple, intelligent, spirited, sensitive, and affectionate childhood, all the more convincing and affecting because it is so entirely devoid of mere sentimentality or gush. Most children invented for the theatre are impossible prigs, but this one is a living and noble little creature. In nothing is the literary art of the author more clearly manifested than in the forcible and appropriate quality of his dialogue—although exception might fairly be taken to occasional expressions which are of such modern origin as to be clearly anachronistic. He set himself a very difficult task when he undertook to be conversationally realistic in blank verse. That he has been exceedingly adroit in making some of the crudest phrases of his illiterates conform to the exigencies of metre may be readily admitted, but the effect of them, nevertheless, is somewhat anomalous. On the other hand, it should be noted that his scrupulous avoidance of any indulgence in rhetorical or poetic flights, which would have impeded the action, and been unnatural in the circumstances, is a proof of his conscientious artistry. It re-

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mains true, however, that the dominant excellence of the play is dramatic rather than literary, although a talk between the two boys, in their privacy, is altogether charming in its simplicity, grace, and naturalness. Mr. Bynner has written a first-rate one-act play, but whether he could, to-day, find actors capable of doing justice to it is exceedingly doubtful. Good luck attend him!

A play in four acts, "A Friend of the People," by Theodore Bonnet (San Francisco: Pacific Publication Co.), is a work of decided ability, with qualities which seem to fit it eminently for the theatre. It is well made, tells an interesting story dealing with contemporaneous politics, and contains a number of effective situations arising legitimately out of character and circumstance and culminating in a logical catastrophe. It is introduced by a prefatory epistle in which the author relates his experiences with various theatrical magnates, who, after lavishing encomiums upon the dramatic and other qualities of the piece, have declined to produce it, because it does not have a happy ending, which, in the prescribed conditions, would be ridiculous. The case which he makes out for himself, as against the managers, is unanswerable, and what he has to say about the general incapacity of most of our theatrical directors to judge the merits of a play in manuscript, or to estimate public discernment at its true value, is sound and forcible. But the facts which he cites are sufficiently notorious, and nothing would be gained by repeating them. The mere fact that he treats his subject from a different point of view from that which has been adopted in the political plays which have recently proved profitable is a sufficient explanation of the managerial mistrust he has encountered. In construction and general workmanship, his play is unquestionably superior to most of the political dramas which have lately been successful, and, should it be well acted, the production of it might prove a very remunerative experiment. The one valid objection to it, that its spirit is reactionary in its attitude towards certain types of modern reformers, would not be likely to antagonize greatly the average theatrical audience. His hero is a hypocritical man and corrupt politician, of engaging parts and abilities, who has won his way to the Governorship of a great State, and a prospective United States Senatorship, by demagogic acts, life service to idealists of all kinds, and secret traffickings with the powers of darkness. His infidelity to his mistress, the wife of one of his best friends, a woman who has believed in him implicitly and who has been of great service to him, is the cause of his final overthrow. Discovering his baseness, she allies herself with his enemies, contrives his exposure, and puts him in a position so utterly hopeless that he seeks refuge in suicide. Thus baldly stated, the plot seems extravagant and sensational, but it is elaborated with uncommon skill and in full accordance with the acknowledged laws of dramatics. Technically the play is extremely well written, and the different personages in it, although unmarked by any great creative originality, are sketched with notable observation and consistency. If they belonged to a higher order of humanity, if they suggested broad conceptions rather than faithful copies, they might pass for genuine psychological studies; certainly they are much more realistic than the ordinary puppets of melodrama.

Recent books on musical subjects which will be reviewed later are "Musicians of To-day," by Romain Rolland (Henry Holt); "Nature in Music," by Lawrence Gilman (John Lane Co.); "My Path through Life," by Lilli Lehmann (Putnam); "Stories from Wagner," by J. Walker McSpadden (Crowell); "Bluebeard," by Kate Douglas Wiggin (Harper); "Orchestration," by Cecil Forsyth (Macmillan); "Music on the Shakespearean Stage," by G. H. Cowling (Cambridge University Press); "Graded Lessons in Harmony," by F. H. Shepard (Schirmer); "The Choirtrainer's Art," by A. Madeley Richardson (Schirmer).

An excellent new score for voice and piano of Bizet's "Carmen" has been published by the Oliver Ditson Co. to meet the renewed interest in this opera sure to be aroused by its revival at the Metropolitan. It is clearly printed on good paper, and below the French text is the English version by Charles Fontayne Manney. But what makes this edition particularly desirable is an introduction of fourteen pages by Philip Hale, who is an authority on French music of the past and the present, and who has read nearly everything written by French journalists and authors on Bizet's masterwork, judging by his numerous brief citations. That "Carmen" was a failure when first produced in Paris, and that this failure broke the composer's heart and hastened his death, is now established beyond all doubt. The saddest part of the story is that, stunned by the chorus of disapproval, Bizet said: "Perhaps they are right." Mr. Hale tells the story of the opera, as well as its history, and briefly analyzes its characteristics. He has also furnished a similar introduction to a new edition of Gounod's "Faust," issued by the same publishers. Though not a failure, "Faust" also was not appreciated at anything like its value when first performed. Gounod had difficulty in finding a publisher for the score, and finally had to content himself with $2,000 for all the rights for France and Belgium, one-third of which sum went to his collaborators. Mr. Hale gives a list of all the Marguerites heard in Paris up to 1912. It includes three famous Americans—Nordica, Eames, and Farrar. The English version in this edition is that of Chorley, while the vocal score is the arrangement by Léo Delibes. Among other recent publications by the Ditson Company are "Thirty Offertories for the Organ," edited by James H. Rogers, and the second volume of the "Anthology of German Piano Music," which is devoted to modern composers from Schubert to Max Reger. There is again a helpful introduction by Moritz Moszkowski. The offertory is, in the opinion of Mr. Rogers, "the organist's best opportunity for making the organ a vital and integral part of the service as a solo instrument." His thirty selections are made from the works of French, German, Russian, and other masters, and there are brief biographic sketches of these.

Lilli Lehmann, according to her interesting autobiography, an English version of which, under the title of "My Path Through Life," has just been published by G. P. Putnam, says she was born in 1848. At sixty-six it is wonderful that she can sing Weber's "Ocean" aria and Beethoven's "Abscheulicher" in such a way as to have it said that "that was vocal art of the highest order. What breath control, what superb phrasing, what beautiful portamenti, and what a fine attack. That was real bel canto. Mme. Lehmann received a well-deserved ovation."

Dr. Muck believes that the war cannot fail to have, in the end, a strongly beneficial influence on the artistic productions of Europe. In a conversation with Olin Downes, printed in *Musical America*, he expressed the opinion that the primal verities would be felt once more. Simplicity, sincerity, music which appears because it must appear, music which is farthest from fad or the desire for pecuniary gain, may reasonably be anticipated. And he broke off: "But what is the use? Who will want music for the next hundred years in Europe? They will want houses and food. Where will it end?"

Holland's principal orchestral association, Concertgebouw of Amsterdam, will give its usual number of concerts this season, and all the soloists engaged will appear.

About 30,000 addresses of musicians are included in the thirtieth annual issue of Max Hesse's "Deutscher Musikerkalender," just published in Leipzig. There are no French or English addresses, but this, evidently, is not an omission due to hostile feeling, for the Russian and Belgian musicians are included.

Art

BOOKMAKING.

The Art of the Book: A Review of Some Recent European and American Work in Typography, Page Decoration, and Binding. Charles Holme, Editor. New York: "The Studio," Ltd.

For some years the "art of the book" has been unobtrusively brought before our public. Picking out individual effort almost at random, one may cite the typographic work of the late T. L. De Vinne, the book decoration of Will Bradley, the agitation of technical periodicals, such as *Printing Art* or the *Graphic Arts*. Some of us may find these efforts rather sporadic, the results an occasional good book rather than an output habitually good. But the spirit and the will to do are strong enough to make the present review of more recent—as well as earlier—work a welcome supplement to the books on illustrating by Pennell and by Walter Crane, or the later one, on German work, by Grautoff.

The countries embraced in the review under discussion are England (taking up nearly one-half of the book), Germany, France, Austria, Hungary, Sweden, and America, and the field included is large: typography, illustration, decoration, covers, end-papers, and binding. The presentation—particularly for the Continental European countries—is therefore summary, yet one gets a fair impression of the result of the application of quite different national and individual points of view to the problems of bookmaking. That not a little of the most modern work shows a spirit of oddity, of unrest, of nervousness, in decoration, and of want of simplicity in bindings, is natural. But the best in all

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this, that based on the honest desire to find the right way, will live; mere striving after novelty has never the germ of lasting success. As L. Deubner points out, in the chapter on Germany, there have been many "artist" designs for type which have not lived. That will inevitably happen whenever there is a striving for "artistic" effect which loses sight of a practical object. In Germany, by the way, as far back as 1900, there has been a growing tendency to drop Gothic flourishes and approach to simplicity and similarity to Roman forms. Incidentally, the present book affords us a glimpse of the decoration and illustration of men like P. E. Colin (a remarkable collection of whose work is housed in the Doucet Library, in the Rue Spontini, Paris), Lucien Pissarro, Franz von Bayros, and Carlègle.

It is a fact worthy of note that, with two exceptions, every illustration or decoration reproduced in the present book is in line. When the now ubiquitous "half-tone" swept over the land we got far away from the old truth that typography is an art of the line and fairly cries for line work in illustrations and decorations as well. Everything in its place; the half-tone is not only a matter of tones, not lines, but it is a reproduction of a wash-drawing or painting. There cannot be established between it and the printed page that harmony that makes a book a finished whole. Such we find it, for example, in the books for which the Englishman Morris or the German Sattler designed type, illustrations, and decorations, and in those for which the services of our own Goodhue and Bradley were enlisted. The early printers, who hit upon a balance of type-space and page-size that has not been improved upon essentially, naturally and inevitably came also to this matter of harmony between type and illustration—because in those days there was only reproduction in line. To bring the necessity of this harmony—and its beauty—vividly before our eyes is not the least merit of the volume under review.

The thin volume "The Late Years of Michelangelo," by William R. Valentiner, is a delight to the hand and the eye. The essay itself is worthy of the fastidiously sober garb with which Mr. F. F. Sherman has invested it. Dr. Valentiner considers especially those carefully finished drawings, particularly the Phæthon and the Resurrection, which are an instructive link between the painting and the sculpture of the master. He comments as well upon the friendship with Vittoria Colonna and the dome of St. Peter's. The essay is notable for its fineness of spirit, sympathy, and insight. Though it is a translation, it reads like an original, and at the same time recalls the best traditions of German literary scholarship as exemplified, for example, by Hermann Grimm. The edition is limited to three hundred copies, and the appeal is equally strong to careful bibliophiles and discerning readers.

Despite the war, *Archiv für Kunstgeschichte* begins auspiciously its second year with the usual twenty plates, drawn mostly from inedited originals in German private collections. Italian examples of note are a late Bacchiacca Madonna, an early Palma Vecchio Holy Family, an important Tintoretto, Christ Bearing the Cross, an odd pastoral scene by Dosso, and a fastidiously delicate Saint Cecilia by Tiepolo. Nothing is more welcome in this quarterly number than a portrait of a severe mathematician and his urchin pupil by Lucidel. Other works of consequence in the northern field are two drastic Passion scenes by Wolf Huber, from the Munich Gallery; three charming panels of the early Cologne school, an Eyckian Resurrection with the Three Maries, closely allied to the famous panel in the Cook collection, and a noble drawing of a Virgin's head by Dürer, lately discovered in a scrapbook of the Museo Civico, Venice. An excellent Poussin and a Rigaud represent the French school. Sculpture claims two plates, a Giovanni della Robbia Madonna, dated 1497, and a contemporary bronze bust of Pope Paul III. Thus this excellent series strengthens its hold upon students everywhere.

Charles R. Morey, of Princeton, publishes with an elaborate commentary twelve color facsimiles of manuscript miniatures in the possession of Charles L. Freer. These are cut from a codex of the "Klimax" and from a Gospels. As a result of Professor Morey's conographical investigations these miniatures are dated in the twelfth century. The Gospel codex is even plausibly traced to a particular convent at Constantinople. Since miniatured manuscripts of this century are pretty rare, these careful color facsimiles with the accompanying discussion constitute a valuable contribution to Byzantine studies. The book is No. 12 of "Humanistic Studies" of the University of Michigan and is to be had of the Macmillans.

If, as Mr. George Wharton James says in his "Indian Blankets and Their Makers" (Chicago: McClurg; $5 net), "there are even thousands of Navajo blankets among the nearly one million dollars' worth made last year by those Indians, which would be the pride of any trained and expert collector, and are as fine as any that were ever produced in the palmy days of the art," why is there not a market for them, and why, as he also notes, are the blankets of the early part of the last century the envy and desire of the collector? The answer is that those blankets which were made from the Spanish flannel, unravelled, with the other colors, black and white, produced from minerals, are preferred by connoisseurs to the modern product of Germantown wool, colored with aniline dyes. Mr. James also goes a little too far in suggesting a comparison between the Navajo blankets and Oriental rugs, wholly unfavorable to the latter. No one, however, can question the author's knowledge of the art he so well promotes. He has evidently studied it long and carefully, and has gathered from tale and tradition the history of the blanket from the earliest days. Nevertheless, when he declares that the art of weaving was introduced to the world by the Navajo woman, he will have to submit better proofs than the legends he gives as evidence. The volume, if its exaggerations be passed over, is interesting and instructive, as an exposition not only of the different weaves, the symbols, patterns, and coloring of the blankets, but also of the life of their makers. The illustrations are many and good, and the greatest value of the volume will be as a book of reference for the collector or the student of ethnology.

Finance

THE STOCK MARKET'S VERDICT.

Resumption by the Stock Exchange, last Saturday, of the open trading in stocks which had been suspended since the Exchange shut down on July 31, has had some remarkable results. Far more than resumption of dealings in investment bonds, a reopened stock market was bound to throw light on certain highly important questions. One, very naturally, was the long-discussed question whether reëstablishment of a broad and active market would start an avalanche of selling, back to New York, of the European holdings of American stocks. This apprehension had considerably waned of late, because of the fact that prices, in the narrow trading elsewhere than on the floor of the Stock Exchange, had held firm at a level above the closing figures of July 30.

But the further interesting question remained for settlement, exactly how the reopened market would "reflect," after the old-time fashion of the Stock Exchange, not only the events which immediately followed the outbreak of the European war, but things which have happened later on. In this intervening four months' period, we have had the reëstablishment of relations on international exchange, the huge accumulations of gold at London and Berlin, and the return of money markets to a perfectly normal basis, in England and in this country. But an open Stock Exchange would also have been called upon to pass judgment on such successive events as the German advance to the Marne, the subsequent retreat, the vicissitudes in Poland, the naval engagements, the Zeppelin scare, the changing position of our cotton trade, the cancellation of the Clearing House loan certificates and the rapid retirement of our emergency banknote currency, the effective establishment of the new banking system, the Administration's attitude towards "Big Business," and the hopes and doubts regarding the forthcoming railway-rate decision. Regardless of such disputed problems as the presumable volume of European liquidation in our markets, here was a list of "influences," of exceptional weight and interest, whose net result on financial sentiment had to be suddenly measured in the market.

When open trading in stocks began again, last Saturday, "minimum prices" were still enforced by the Stock Exchange; they were in the neighborhood of the closings of July 30. On Saturday, prices of the important stocks rose, on active trading, 1 to 5 points above their latest outside prices. On Monday, further advances of from 2 to 5 points were scored throughout the list, carrying a great part of the market 7 to 13 per cent. above the final July prices. The rise was checked next day, when much of the earlier advance was lost; indeed, Wall Street itself admitted that the pace of recovery was too rapid to continue. Nevertheless, the influence on financial sentiment, of this unexpected action of the reopened stock mar-

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ket, was profound. In the light of all experience, it was considered reasonable to look for the early spreading of this new-born hopefulness, from financial markets into the channels of production and general trade.

But what, then, are we to say of the larger economic causes—such as the huge destruction of capital in the war, and the enormous increase in the supply of Government securities on the market—which are still continuing? The Chancellor of the British Exchequer has given one suggestion. The present, Mr. Lloyd George affirmed, "is a period of inflation," when no one need worry over money facilities. He naturally referred to the "emergency currencies" and the "emergency credit" expedients, adopted on a scale without historical precedent in every European market. But he added that, "four or five years hence, we shall probably be face to face with one of the most serious financial situations with which we have ever been confronted."

Not all of Lombard Street's opinion has endorsed this prophecy; but the underlying idea is interesting. It seems to be based on the presumption that two factors, not now present, will be required to bring the true economic test—removal of all these artificial props to currency and credit, and reappearance of demands from industry at large, on the old-time scale, for the world's accumulated capital.

In problems of this sort, it is always the first instinct of careful business men to look for some precedent in the past. It has often enough been pointed out that the Napoleonic war, which began between England and France in 1803 and had spread to the six greater European states by 1805, provides the nearest analogy in circumstances.

But the records of the period give scarcely any clue even to an economic shock in the United States. Not even the American Stock Exchange shut down in 1803; the newspapers of that period give no hint of financial trouble. How little upset was foreign exchange may be judged from the fact that the President's annual message, in the autumn, while referring to Europe's "sanguinary contest," remarked:

> Remittances for the instalments of our foreign debt having been found practicable without loss, it has not been thought expedient to use the power of continuing them by reloans, although no difficulty was found in obtaining that accommodation.

The Treasury at the end of 1803 reported expansion of our commerce, increased receipts from customs, and virtual discontinuance of internal revenue taxation. At the end of 1805 it reported public finances in so flourishing a condition that a handsome part of the public debt was redeemed. "Neutral nations, of whom the United States was chief," an eminent historian of that period relates, "were now absorbing the carrying trade of Europe; American receipts from customs exceeded all former estimates, and were constantly rising."

So that this country, during at least the first three or four years of that prolonged, widespread, and immensely expensive European conflict, seemed to be actually a beneficiary. Yet history further tells us that we had to share in the period of protracted economic inertia, eight or nine years later, after peace had been restored.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK

FICTION.

Bilse, Lieutenant. Life in a Garrison Town. Lane. $1 net.
Harcourt, Cyril. First Cousin to a Dream. Lane. $1.25 net.
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MISCELLANEOUS.

Bagley, W. C. School Discipline. Macmillan. $1.25 net.
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Ellis, George W. Negro Culture in West Africa. Neale Pub. Co. $2 net.
Kerin, D. The Living Touch. Macmillan. $1 net.
Newton, J. F. The Builders. Cedar Rapids, Ia.: The Torch Press. $1.25 net.
Paget, S. The New Parent's Assistant. Macmillan.
Rohmer, Sax. The Romance of Sorcery. Dutton. $3.50 net.
Serl, Elmer W. The Fraternity of the Fields. Neale Publishing Co.
Serl, E. W. Whillikins. Neale Publishing Co.
Smyth, Julian K. The Heart of the War. New Church Press.
Swollen-Headed William. Verses by E. V. Lucas. Drawings by G. Morrow. Dutton. 50 cents net.
Theobald M. B. The Triple Play of Life. Macmillan. $1.25 net.
The Well-Knowns as Seen by James Montgomery Flagg. Doran. $2.50 net.

RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY.

Canton, Wm. The Bible and the Anglo-Saxon People. Dutton. $2 net.
Central Conference of American Rabbis. Vol. XXIV. Edited by J. Morgenstern. Privately printed.
Granger, M. A. Hattie E. Lewis Memorial. Essays in Applied Christianity. University of Kansas. Vol. XV, No. 9.
Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society. New Series. Vol. XIV. London: Williams & Norgate. 10s. 6d. net.
Sheldon, Charles M. A Little Book for Every Day. Boston: Pilgrim Press. 50 cents net.
Turton, Lieut.-Col. W. H. The Truth of Christianity. Putnam. Eighth edition.
Venerable Phillipine Duchesne. Anonymous. The America Press.
Wicks, H. J. The Doctrine of God. London: Hunter & Longhurst. 10s. net.

GOVERNMENT AND ECONOMICS.

Nineteenth Annual Report of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, 1914. Albany: J. B. Lyon Co.
Oster, J. E. The Political and Economic Doctrines of John Marshall. Neale Pub. Co. $3 net.
Report of the Librarian of Congress, 1914. Washington: Government Printing Office.
Rogers, E. S. Good Will, Trade-Marks, and Unfair Trading. Chicago: A. W. Shaw Co. $2.50 net.
Treitschke, H. von. Selections from Treitschke's Lectures on Politics. Stokes. 75 cents net.
United States Compiled Statutes, 1913. Five volumes. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. $25 net.
Year Book of the Pennsylvania Society, 1914. Edited by B. Ferree. New York: Pennsylvania Society.

BIOGRAPHY AND HISTORY.

Ashby, Thomas A. Life of Turner Ashby. Neale Pub. Co. $1.50 net.
Baden-Powell, Sir Robert. Quick Training for War. Duffield.
Bernhardi, F. von. Britain as Germany's Vassal. Translated by L. E. Barker. Doran.
Blythe, Vernon. History of the Civil War in the United States. Neale Pub. Co. $2 net.
Brown, P. H. The Legislative Union of England and Scotland. Oxford University Press.
Colin, Commandant J. France and the Next War. Translated by Major L. H. R. Pope-Hennesey. Doran.
Gibbons, H. A. The New Map of Europe. Century. $2 net.
Handbook of the European War. Edited by Stanley S. Sheip. H. W. Wilson Co. $1 net.
Henry, H. M. The Police Control of the Slave in South Carolina. Privately printed.
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TRAVEL.

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James, G. W. California: Romantic and Beautiful. Boston: The Page Co. $3.50 net.
Japan to America. Edited by Naoichi Masaoka. Putnam. $1.25 net.
Lorimer, N. By the Waters of Egypt. Brentano's.
Lucas, E. V. A Wanderer in Venice. Macmillan. $1.75 net.
Mead, W. E. The Grand Tour in the Eighteenth Century. Houghton Mifflin. $4 net.
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Rand, K. The Rainbow Chaser. Boston: Sherman, French. $1 net.
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Sattler, Otto. Krieg. New York: Rudolph Rochow. 15 cents.

SCIENCE.

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Rexburn, John. The Letter Writer's Handbook. Chicago: Browne & Howell Co. 75 cents net.
Thomas, G. C. Practical Book of Outdoor Rose Growing. Philadelphia: Lippincott. $4 net.

MUSIC AND DRAMA.

Clark, B. H. Four Plays of the Free Theatre. Cincinnati, O.: Stewart & Kidd Co. $1.50 net.
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Eberlein, H. D., and McClure, A. Practical Book of Period Furniture. Philadelphia: Lippincott. $5 net.
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Cumings, E. Josephine in Wartime. Boston: Pilgrim Press. $1.25 net.
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Wade, B. E. The Island of Make Believe. Boston: The Page Co.
Waggaman, Mary T. The Secret of Pocomoke. Notre Dame, Ind.: The Ave Maria. 75 cents net.
Warren, Carro F. Little Sallie Sunflower. Philadelphia: David McKay. 50 cents net.

TEXTBOOKS.

Elson, W. H., and Runkel, L. E. Elson-Runkel Primer. Scott, Foresman.
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